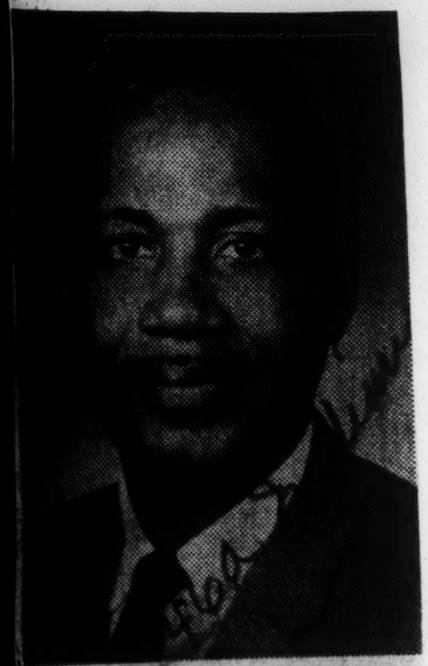


DR. JOSEPH TAYLOR

ALBANY STATE SPEAKER—Dr. Joseph T. Taylor, Director Program Development of the Frontier School in Indianapolis, Indiana, will deliver the [illegible] college commencement address Wednesday, August 20, at 8 p.m. Approximately 60 seniors will hear the University of Indiana graduate who at one time was Professor of Social Sciences at Albany State College.

City Council Unanimously Postpone Final Decision on Housing Area Two Weeks

The Des Moines Commission on Human Rights and Job Discrimination said it may disclose the location of three other specific sites for consideration before the urban renewal board tomorrow morning. The statement was made by Atty. Luther Glanton, member of the commission, following a meeting with the Des Moines Redevelopment committee Monday evening. Glanton declined to disclose location of the sites at that time for fear of precipitating "a hike" of the land's purchase price.

purchase price.

City Council

Definite word that the commission had three other sites as an alternative to a present proposed 35-acre east side tract recommended by the urban renewal board, came eight hours after members of the city council voted unanimously to postpone final decision two weeks from Monday.

Packed Chamber

For nearly two hours a packed council chamber listened as interested group representatives and citizens voiced support for and against the proposed housing project which would accomodate 200 families to be displaced by freeway [illegible] other public projects.

Major Objection

Major object to the re-location project came from the Human Rights commission and Negro leaders who were concerned that "segregation be eliminated" from the area. Support for the project came from the urban renewal and city planning officials who voiced a desire "not to create a segregated area,' but pointed out "urban renewal cannot be used for any purpose . . . but to clean up the blighted and slum areas of our city."

ATTY. LUTHER T. GLANTON, JR.

Higgins

In an official statement to the city council Monday, Malcolm Higgins, executive-secretary of the Commission, pointing out the physical undesirability of the area, said:

"On the north it is bounded by an area principally owned by a railroad company and zoned for heavy and light industry; to the east are junkyards, dilapidated and sub-standard housing; to the south the same conditions of unimproved streets and substandard housing exist.

"Only toward the west is there a more suitable section and even here the neighborhood is in a state of transition with numerous white families trying to sell their homes and move from the area."

Site Location

The proposed site that was the subject of the hearing is bounded generally by Washington and Cleveland Avenues and E. Sixteenth and E. Seventeenth Streets.

Higgins declared "Negroes comprise more than 50 per cent of the population, adding, "It must be clearly understood, that, in the eyes of the community and in fact, the site under consideration is located in a segregated Negro neighborhood."

FHA Standards

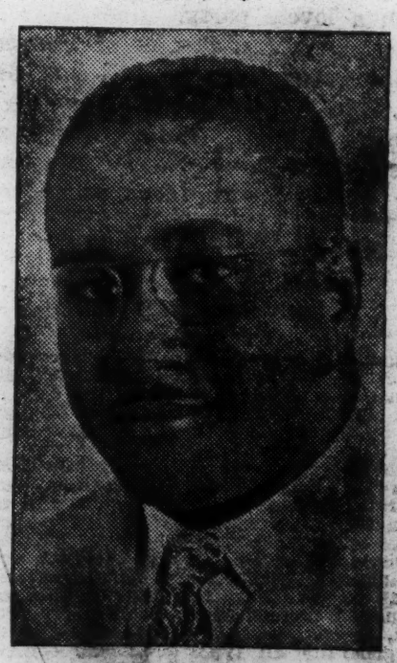
The commission asked:

"Can relocation housing built under the lowest standards of FHA (Federal Housing Administration) . . . and built in such an area be be expected to attract any but the poorest of whites and Negro families?"

To Prevent Panic Buying In Housing Ghettoes by Organizing Unit Meetings

Twenty-one members of the Executive Board of the Des Moines N.A.A.C.P. met in a special session Tuesday evening at the home of the President, Mrs. Clara Bayles, 951 17th Street. The meeting was called for the purpose of giving consideration to how the local branch could be of service in helping to eliminate racial discrimination in housing and helping Negro families being displaced by the Freeway to relocate in decent desirable housing.

* * *



DR. SCALE

Dr. E. T. Scales, a member of the Urban Renewal Board, cited an urgent need for guidance on the part of the N.A.A.C.P., and others interested in integrated housing, in helping to alleviate tension and fears on the part of Negro families who are faced with relocating and who may become panicky in view of the fact that housing opportunities for them are very limited in Des Moines.

The Executive Board of the N.A.A.C.P. recognized these pertinent facts:

1. **That there are approximately 400 Negro families to be displaced by the Freefay project; approximately 175 of these live in the first area to be constructed.**
2. **That real estate agents and other forces in hte community are encouraging white home owners in fringe areas to put their houses on the market to Negroes, thus maintaining the Negro ghettoes.**
3. **That in practically every instance, realtors are offering to show Negroes only those houses that are located in predominantly Negro neighborhoods or in surrounding fringe areas.**
4. **That well established Negro home owners are being forced to vacate their comfortable, well kept homes in good neighborhoods because of the Freeway, but because of the segregated housing patterns in our City, are forced to pay exorbitant prices for old homes formerly occupied by whites. These Negro families could afford to live in some of the new and beter houses that are for sale in the City, but are not being shown these houses because of the practice of discriminating against Negroes who attempt to buy houses outside of certain areas.**

In view of the above factors, the N.A.A.C.P. Executive Board, in cooperation with its Housing Commit-

tee, began immediate plans for organizing area or unit meetings of those Negro families being displaced by the Freeway in an effort to alert them to the evils of segregation in housing and the danger of panicking and buying old homes in areas where they do not wish to live.

Such meetings will be planned to encourage these families to be calm and take their time in buying a new house and insist upon their right to be shown decent and desirable housing in neighborhoods of their choice.

The Executive Board also began immediate preparation of pamphlets ot be issued to Negro families in the path of the Freeway which will spell out the proper procedure to follow in relocating; and also the danger points to watch when approached by real estate agents who are willing to show them only homes in predominantly Negro neighborhoods.

46a 1958

INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE OF SOCIAL WORK

Dr. Alexander Represents Philadelphia in Tokyo

PHILADELPHIA, Pa.—Dr. Sadie T. M. Alexander, attorney, wife of City Councilman Raymond Pace Alexander, left for the ninth International Conference of Social Work which is being held in Tokyo, now, until Dec. 30.

Mrs. Alexander, who also is secretary of Philadelphia's Commission on Human Relations, has been designated a goodwill ambassador by Mayor Dilworth and will present credentials to the Mayor of each city she visits.

■

As a member of the U.S. committee at the conference, she will serve as a consultant to the study group on labor's part in social welfare policy, action and program.

Mrs. Alexander became the first Negro woman in the nation to receive a Ph.D. degree at the University of Pennsylvania in 1921, and six years later became the first Negro woman graduate of Penn's Law School and the first admitted to practice law in Pennsylvania. She earned a B.S. in education at Penn in 1918, an M.A. in economics there the following year.

She has been a practicing attorney since 1927, and from 1928-30 and '34-'38 served as an assistant city solicitor.

DR. ALEXANDER

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KENTUCKY

Family of 14 Moves Into 8 Rooms In New Southwick Homes Project

The Solomon Brown family has helped considerably to swell the population of the new Southwick Homes housing project.

Mr. and Mrs. Brown and their 12 children moved Saturday from Cotter Homes to a six-bedroom apartment in Southwick. They had only four bedrooms in Cotter.

The eight-room units in Southwick are the largest in any municipal project here. Brown, a truck washer at the Aetna Oil Company refinery, pays $58 a month for the new apartment. It has a living room, kitchen, two bedrooms, and bath downstairs, and four bedrooms and bath upstairs.

Brown, 38, a veteran of the Okinawa campaign, rides a bicycle to and from work each day. He works from 4 to 11 p.m. He is a member of the Church of Christ at 15th and Cedar.

The older Brown children all attend Cotter-DuValle School across the street from the project.

S. E. Broaddus, manager of Southwick, said 226 of the 496 units were filled. Some buildings are still under construction.

The project is bounded by 34th, 37th, Young, and Bohne.

Courier-Journal Photo

LARGEST FAMILY in the new Southwick Homes project is Mr. and Mrs. Brown and their 12 children. Waving good-by to Brown as he cycles off to are, from left, Helena, 16; Evelyn, 15, holding Althleen, 6 months; Velma Mae, Brown, holding Dorene, 1; Michael Douglas, 11; Gloria Jean, 9; Diana, 8; 6; Sylvia Lee, 4; Rita Kay, 2, and Clark Rogers, 3.

Segregated Housing

Pattern Has Remained Intact Since 1933

By Clarence L. Matthews

Despite the excellent progress being made in many areas of integration in Louisville, the pattern of segregated housing, perhaps the greatest obstacle to complete integration, has remained virtually the same from 1933 to the present date.

The practiced used in other cities, of restrictive covenants attached to deeds, to keep Negroes and other minority groups from living in 'lily-white' neighborhoods, has not been employed here exclusively. This is because of a U. S. Supreme Court decision of 1917 in Buchanan vs. Warley, ruled as unconstitutional a city ordinance which prohibited Negroes from moving into predominantly white neighborhoods and vice versa.

The NAACP supported the late William Warley in his attempt to purchase and occupy a forbidden lot of a 37th and Pflang Ave. The state courts had approved the ordinance under the police powers of the state to regulate relations in order to maintain the public peace (between the races).

At any rate, to circumvent the necessity of resorting to restrictive covenants, lending companies are in the habit of not financing Negroes seeking property in white neighborhoods. Also the "gentlemen" agreement between home owners to not sell to Negroes has helped to keep the pattern of segregated housing intact.

Negro Section

The Negro housing or section lies chiefly west of 6th Street down Walnut to 30th and bounded by Jefferson on the north and Oak St. in the south, the Parkland area, east end-west end and Fort Hill. Other outlying areas are Highland Park and South Louisville. Many Negro residents are scattered about Louisville as dotted oasises in the deserts of white communities.

A Detroit housing group meeting recently issued a statement that said in part, "The denial of the right to home-ownership to any reputable citizen because of race or creed represents a basic violation of the spirit as well as the fundamentals of democratic principles." This statement is applicable to the housing situation that exists in Louisville, especially prior to 1940.

At one time Negroes lived and operated businesses close to the current Louisville shopping district of Fourth Street and its environs. Negro establishments lined Liberty Street off 4th through 10th street, and lived in residential sections on Armory Place from Liberty to Broadway.

Generally, however, 25 years ago, the predominantly Negro section extended from 6th down Walnut and Chestnut Streets west to 30th, and bounded on the north and south by Jefferson and Broadway. In Parkland, this area was down Greenwood to Cecil, including homes on Kentucky and Garland across 30th Street. Many neighborhoods in these areas remain mixed.

The Negro, nevertheless, still populates the crowded older sections of the city where houses and multiple units are now standing that should have been torn down 20 years ago. Many of these places have no bathrooms, hot water, or washing space and are ill heated and generally rundown. This housing situation remains despite the presence of section 3 of the city's Code For Minimum Standards For Habitable Buildings which forbids such living dwellings.

Urban Renewal

In the November elections of last year, the populace overwhelmingly passed the $50 million bond issue to finance a complete urban renewal program and eliminate this sordid housing condition that now exists in certain areas of the city.

Urban Renewal is a program made available in 1954 when Congress passed a new housing act to give help for rebuilding older Neighborhoods. First the act sets up a renewal fund to assist and carry out the kind of public improvement that may be needed to insure success. The fund is used by the government to pay to the cities involved two thirds of the cost of such improvements. Ex-Mayor Andrew Broaddus is chairman of the Louisville Renewal Committee.

Predominantly Negro areas are marked for initial renewal assistance. Among these are the centrally heavily populated area bounded by 13th, Broadway, Jefferson and 6th Streets. The Southwick area, long run-down, is also included in the first planned activity of the renewal appropriation.

Housing segregation in Louisville has not been restricted to private homes but to public housing as well. On November 7, 1956, 12 Negro families, through Atty. J. Earl Dearing, filed a suit in the Federal District Court of Western Kentucky, to gain housing on an unsegregated basis and demanded a permanent injunction against discrimination in public housing.

Defendants in the court action were the Municipal Housing Commission and Nicholas Dosker, chief administrator for the Commission. With due processes and equal protection clauses as a basis, the plaintiffs were promised relief and the Housing Commission agreed to cease the practice of public housing segregation.

Subdivision for Negroes Planned at Frankfort

12 to 15 Homes To Be Built on Part Of Kentucky State College Farm

By ANNE PARDUE

The Courier-Journal Frankfort Bureau

Frankfort, Ky., Oct. 30.—A subdivision aimed at providing new housing for Frankfort's Negro population will be developed on part of the Kentucky State College farm.

College Park Subdivision Corporation, composed of K.S.C. faculty members and others, has optioned 32.82 acres of the farm for $16,410.

A plat has been drawn and the corporation is awaiting F.H.A. approval for the project.

Twelve to 15 houses will be built by the corporation for resale. They will cost $10,000 to $15,000. The lots will have a minimum frontage of 75 feet and a depth of about 140.

It will be the first subdivision developed here by Negroes since 1911. Dr. R. B. Atwood, K.S.C. president, said the corporation hoped to attract residents dislocated because of a slum-clearance program. All races will be welcome, he added.

The portion of the farm where the subdivision will be developed is not in the city, but Dr. Atwood said the city would be asked to annex it.

Dr. Atwood said he hoped the project would be under way by spring.

Housing Project Initiated At Grambling College

GRAMBLING, La. — (ANP) — Ground-breaking ceremonies to start the construction of a housing project consisting of 10 duplex apartments were held here Friday by officials of the Grambling Improvement Association, sponsors of the project which has a valuation of $[illegible].00.

Participating in the event were Dr. William McIntosh, president; Dr. Charles A. Berry, secretary; Mr. V. B. Vickers, Grambling Heights Development Corporation, builder; Dr. Helen Richards, Dean; Dr. L. C. Grambling College, and Dr. Sidney Boose.

The Grambling Improvement Association is made up of personnel from Grambling College and the Grambling Community, is spearheading community development programs such as Hopping Center, an urban renewal program, a workable community program, the construction of residences, and an annual housing clinic to deal with problems in home financing and improvement.

Okey open housing market at 'changing communities' meet

By MAX JOHNSON

BALTIMORE

A program aimed at opening the sales and rentals of all new and existing housing in Baltimore to all persons, whatever their race, was adopted here Tuesday by top civic and real estate agencies.

This long step forward in the critical field of housing, primarily for colored citizens, came during a conference on the subject of "Changing Neighborhoods," held at the Sheraton-Belvedere Hotel.

The Greater Baltimore Committee, the Citizens Planning and Housing Association, and the Baltimore Urban League cooperated to stage the all-day affair.

Some 225 civic and real estate representatives of both races were in attendance.

THEY VOTED unanimously to adopt the following seven-point program:

1. To fight block-busting on a neighborhood and metropolitan basis, by exposing block-busting techniques, by enlisting the support of responsible realtors, by encouraging action against blockbusters who use illegal tactics, by sponsoring legislation if necessary, and by other appropriate means;

2. **To stimulate the sale and rental of new and existing homes and dwelling units in the metropolitan area on an open occupancy basis; stimulating construction of new housing units close to the downtown area, and preventing the practice of "steering" colored to, and whites from, changing neighborhoods;**

3. To conduct a continuing program, stressing the advantages of urban living so as to promote the purchase of homes in the city's residential neighborhoods;

4. To develop a means of financing older homes on a basis that would compete with the low down payments permitted in new developments;

5. To mobolize support necessary to conserve and maintain good residential neighborhoods, to stem panic, to process and help follow through with complaints relating to real estate practices, zoning and other matters affecting neighborhoods;

6. To work with neighborhood associations, builders, real estate brokers and agents, lending institutions, church and civic groups, labor organizations, the colored community, appropriate state and municipal agencies and the general public to coordinate efforts in behalf of the fulfillment of the objectives stated above;

7. To exercise such functions as may be necessary to maintain the qaulity of Baltimore's residential areas.

* * *

WILLIAM BOUCHER, 3rd, executive director of the Greater Baltimore Committee, and chairman of the conference, said a private agency would be established to promote this seven-point program.

Only objection and discussion on the proposed plan of action came on Point No. 2.

"I don't believe I can go out and practice what has been said here," one realtor stated. "Some neighborhood associations would not agree to this."

"I think we ought to modify Point Two," another realtor, a woman, said.

* * *

HOWEVER, a woman arose to settle matters with this statement:

"We can't sit on the fence with this. We must either accept it, or not accept it. I think we should accept it."

Mr. Boucher then closed the brief discussion on Point No. 2 with this explanation:

"All this means is that the association will work toward the implementation of these recommendations.

EARLIER, the assembly had listened to panel discussions on the subjects of:

"How Do We Stop Block-Busting" — "New Housing for Colored Citizens" — "How Neighborhood Resources Can Be Used" and "How Do We Make Older City Housing Competitive With New Housing In The Suburbs."

Reuben A. Clay, inter-group relations adviser, Federal Housing Administration, came from Richmond, Va., to appear as a panel speaker.

"Increased employment opportunities for non-whites have resulted in a new and effective new house demand," Mr. Clay told the assembly.

"The exclusion of non-whites from the new housing market is indefensible; no longer can the economic crutch bolster this exclusion.

"The job market has opened to the extent of a substantial shift of non-whites to higher paying occupations."

* * *

DAVID GLENN, secretary of community services, Baltimore Urban League, another speaker on the subject of new housing, had this to say:

"Less than 3,500 housing units have been built for colored citizens since 1940.

"At the same time, the population of 160,000 colored in 1940 has increased now to almost 300,000."

ON THE subject of stopping block-busting Otho Pinkett, manager of Lafayette Courts, stated:

"Some colored homes could not have otherwise been obtained, if some colored citizens had not allowed themselves to be used as a tool in block-busting.

"We believe the sponsoring of an open-house policy in every neighborhood will undermine block-busting.

"We feel we have an obligation of changing the attitudes of realtors on colored housing and financing."

* * *

OTHER speakers included: James W. Rouse, head of a mortgage firm by that name; Melvin J. Skyes, attorney, Ashburton Area Association; Mol Sherman, realtor; Carl Heinmuller, member Real Estate board;

Also, John P. Mollett, president, Mount Royal Improvement Association; Sidney Hollander Jr., Windsor Hills Improvement Association; Ellsworth Rosen, president, Ashburton Area Association; Russell T. Baker, head of a real estate firm by that name; and Frank T. Gray, vice-president Citizens Planning and Housing Association;

Also, Gerard W. Kirby, vice-president, Provident Savings Bank; Charles H. Borcherding, local director, Federal Housing Administration; and Miss Catherine Byrnes, executive vice president, of a real estate firm.

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(HOUSING) MASSACHUSETTS

Begin Project For Elderly Tenants

LAWRENCE, MASS. — A signed contract with the federal government in the amount of $1,840,321 has been received by the Lawrence Housing Authority, making possible construction of three low-rent public housing developments for elderly tennants with 137 one and two-bedroom apartmets, according to regional director, Herman D. Hillman, of the Public Housing Administration.

With rentals expected to average about $35 monthly, the new housing for senior citizens may be ready for occupancy within a year.

Allbuildings will be of brick veneer construction, 2-stories high, and spaciously laid out on attractive landscaped sites, with ample room for gardens, lawns, sitting and outdoor recreation areas.

GARDEN AREA

Within 10 minutes walking distance of the center of town will be a garden apartment house with 63 one-bedroom units and 20 of two-bedroom size. The two other developments are located in good residential neighborhoods in South Lawrence, each on a site of ap- and 8 of two-bedroom size.

One will have 24 apartments, 16 of one-bedroom, and 8 of two-bedroom size. The other will have 30 apartments, 22 of one-bedroom, and 8 of two-bedroom sie.

The announcement stated that all three developments are situated in good residential neighborhoods adjoining parks, and conveniently accessible to nearby shopping, churches and tansportation.

Removal Of Old Farm Houses In Delta Is Urged By Council

Commercial Appeal P. 19

Memphis Press

By MARIE HEMPHILL

Special To The Commercial Appeal

INDIANOLA, Miss., Oct. 20.—Removal of abandoned and dilapidated tenant houses that dot many farms and plantations in this section of the state is being encouraged by the Delta Council. Many uses have been found for these old dwellings.

Getting rid of these eyesores, left vacant by mechanization and North-bound labor, is a particular objective of the highway and transportation committees of the council, headed by John Hough of Indianola.

Mr. Hough points out several good reasons why this should be done. The ramshackle buildings take up land that could be utilized for solid, and they are a breeding place for boll weevil and other insects. These sites provide an ideal spot for the growth of weeds and noxious grasses and, coupled with the efficient use of farm machinery, air-dusting and spraying, these neglected structures lend an unkempt and slovenly appearance to the Delta section which prides itself on being one of the nation's most progressive agricultural areas.

Landowners Act

Mr. Hough says that he has counted 35 such unoccupied houses along the 30-mile stretch of Highway 82 between Indianola and Greenwood.

With other troubles as acreage reduction and excessive rains plaguing the farmers for the past two years, the committee has not exerted a great deal of pressure on their house-removal project. However, the landowners in many instances are taking care of the matter themselves. W. M. Garrard Jr., has had 19 of the 25 houses on his place moved into Indianola. Here, equipped with electricity, plumbing and gas, they are used by his day laborers who are transported to the fields in a plantation bus. The only houses left on the place are the homes of those who are not interested in the rural area. Other farmers, like Mr. Garrard and David Allen have moved all their houses to town, making them accessible on a hard surfaced road

of sturdy cypress lumber and are a source of good material for repairs around the farm. Many have been converted into tractor sheds, cattle barns, offices, club houses and attractive residences.

Turned Into Lodge

Members of the Indianola Auxiliary Police Department transformed one old cabin on Sunflower River into a lodge. Covered with green asbestos siding, paneled on the interior, and equipped with a bath and electrical appliances in the kitchen, it is the scene of supper parties and week-end outings.

Among the number of pretty homes which have emerged from the renovation of these obsolete farm houses is the Early American cottage of Mr. and Mrs. David Allen. A three-room shotgun type house was pulled up from the fields to a high lot facing cypress-shaded Indian Bayou.

The old porch became the entrance hall, the other rooms were utilized for bedrooms and a bath, and a paneled living room and kitchen were added. Salvage from another dismantled house provided bricks for the open fireplace, foundation and other features. With maple furnishings, brass planters, candlesticks and plaques, the effect is pleasing and the house comfortable and convenient.

Home, Sweet Home

James Rundles hands the father of a family of 11 a check from funds raised in a benefit dance in Jackson, Miss. The father and his family have been living in this bus since a tornado destroyed their home (in background). The bus is located at Farmhaven, Miss. The benefit dance was held at the Jackson Elks' new home.

Four Convicted In Morals Drive

Another Indicted By Ttate County Grand Jury

INSTIGATED BY COUNCIL

By MILDRED MEACHAM
Special to The Commercial Appeal

SENATOBIA, Miss., May 13.—An "attempt to raise moral standards" in Tate County has resulted in convictions against four Senatobia Negroes for violation of "domestic" laws. A similar drive is underway in DeSoto County.

A fifth Negro has been indicted by the Tate County Grand Jury on a charge of desertion. Fred Hughey of Senatobia pleaded not guilty to the charge in Circuit Court and is free under $500 bond.

Two others, Dan White and Cornelius Webb, pleaded guilty to desertion charges. Sentencing was deferred until the fall term of court by Circuit Judge Curtis M. Swango.

Two Fined $500 Each

Ben Newsom and Mildred Ross were fined $500 each Saturday night by Justice of Peace B. G. Ellis on charges of adultery. They are being held in county jail for failure to pay the fine.

Tate County Sheriff Joe Taylor said the pair may pay the fine, appeal the case to Circuit Court, or work out the fine in jail at $3 per day.

Sheriff Taylor said Newsom has 12 children by his legal wife and five by the Ross woman.

The drive to arrest law violators in regard to domestic affairs was called for by the Tate County Grand Jury during its April session.

Dist. Atty. Roy E. Johnson said Tuesday the drive is being directed toward persons guilty of adultery, fornication, desertion, bigamy and perjury. The perjury checks will be made on persons who receive aid from the Department of Welfare, he indicated.

Names Not Released

A number of parents, both white and Negro, whose children are on the rolls of the Welfare Department, reportedly were indicted by the Grand Jury during the April meeting. Mr. Johnson said their names will not be released until they are in custody.

The crackdown was instigated by the Tate County White Citizens Council with a demand that "something be done about existing moral conditions."

Mr. Johnson said a county-wide investigation is being conducted, and a full docket of such cases is expected during the fall term of Circuit Court.

Only one application for support has been made to the local welfare office, as of Monday, since the Grand Jury session

Negro Leaders Could Help To Prevent 'Slum Fleecing

Rehab Department Suggests Campaign To Warn Negroes

By JAMES FEATHERSTON
Daily News Staff Writer

Negro leaders may be called upon to help less educated members of their race avoid being fleeced by unscrupulous contractors.

The Housing Rehabilitation Department, created to rid Jackson of slum dwellings, is concerned over complaints that uneducated Negroes are being victimized by a few unethical contractors.

E. B. Yarbro, director of the Rehabilitation Department, suggested that an education campaign conducted by Negro leaders may be the answer to the problem.

"Negro leaders could conduct a grass roots education campaign in Negro neighborhoods. They could warn uneducated Negroes against these unscrupulous fellows," Yarbro said.

"Fly-by-night" contractors have been going into Negro neighborhoods and telling homeowners they must repair their houses or else the city "will tear down" the structures.

Then, the contractors "sell" the Negroes unnecessary repair work and charge them "absurd prices," according to Yarbro.

Under the rehabilitation program, houses must be brought up to living standards. Houses must be made structurally sound, have adequate wiring and plumbing.

But the Rehabilitation Department will go to great lengths before ordering a house demolished, according to Yarbro.

"In a hardship case, we will do everything we can. We won't order a house torn down unless the homeowner deliberately refuses to bring it up to standards when he is in a position to have the work done," he said.

Unscrupulous contractors, sometimes employing "smooth-talking" salesmen, will persuade uneducated Negroes to "sign up" for additional work not required by the Rehabilitation Department, according to Yarbro.

"Many of these uneducated Negro homeowners are vulnerable to signing up for work they cannot afford," said Yarbro.

Unethical contractors promise Negroes all sorts of "frills" and then fail to do the work at all in many cases, according to Yarbro.

"As soon as they get their money, they'll tell the Negro they'll come back and do the extra work but they never do," he said.

Integration Caused Illegitimate Births

Williams Cites Washington School Records

PORT GIBSON, Miss., Dec. 9. —(AP) — Representative John Bell Williams (D-Miss.) said Monday night the Negro migration to Northern cities is helping win sympathy for the South in the school crisis.

Mr. Williams told the Claiborne County Chamber of Commerce that in the District of Columbia Schools last year 185 girls between 12 and 15 dropped out because of illegitimate pregnancies and 169 of them were Negroes.

He said that pregnancies occurred in 22 of the 23 junior high schools in the District of Columbia.

"These alarming figures should convince us that there is no place for moderation," Mr. Williams said.

He said in the District of Columbia in the 1954-55 school year only six white girls 15 and under quit school due to pregnancies. He blamed the increase to 16 on integration.

"Integration is a direct contributing factor to this increase in delinquency among white junior high school students."

The report on illegitimate births among Washington school girls was made last Saturday by Dr. John R. Pate, head of the Southwest Health Center.

SLUM FLEECERS ON THE RUN

By JI
(An

On last Monday the Jackson Daily News launched a program to inform the public that some unscrupulous contractors had been fleecing unsuspecting Negroes by hiking prices on slum clearance work ordered by Jackson's Housing Rehabilitation Department.

Public reaction to the facts uncovered by this newspaper with cooperation of the rehabilitation office has been more than lukewarm. Obviously, a sorespot has been struck.

Public opinion against racketeering of any kind moves swiftly in Jackson.

Public opinion against any "fly-by-night" operators who would stoop to fleecing unfortunate victims in the slum areas erupts even quicker.

Civic-minded citizens associated with the rehabilitation program joined with city officials in seeking swift action to halt such non-ethical practices.

Equally as quick The Associated Building Contractors association commended efforts to halt the practice and pledged cooperation to eliminate this shabby form of operation.

Kirk Jeffreys, manager of the contractors' association, spelled out his organization's stand in the following statement mailed to Mayor Allen C. Thompson.

"A primary function of this association is to promote legitimate contracting procedures within the construction industry. The need to eliminate unscrupulous methods in the industry can not be minimized.

"A step in the right direction was made through local news media (The Jackson Daily News) in which City Rehabilitation Director E. B. Yarbro charged that 'fly-by-night' contractors are fleecing Negroes by charging unfair prices for work on their houses. This report has drawn considerable interest from the membership of this association. It is indeed gratifying that Mr. Yarbro's department has shown this awareness and has brought this alleged existing condition to light."

The contractors praised Jackson officials for bringing the problem to public attention and advocated necessary control against so-called contractors who exploit Negro citizens by misrepresentation and charging exorbitant prices for work and materials.

With mounting public pressure aroused by this newspaper's efforts plus official action and full cooperation by contractors, lending agencies, citizens and an educational campaign for the Negroes the slum fleecers are on the run—and rightfully so.

Urge Brokers To Get More New Houses For Negroes

ST. LOUIS — (ANP) — Joseph Ray, assistant to the Administrator, Housing and Home Finance Agency, has urged Negro real estate brokers to widen the scope of their operations in order to "help satisfy the crying demand and great need for new homes for Negroes and other minorities."

Addressing the mid-winter conference of the Regional Vice-Presidents of the National Association of Real Estate Brokers, here, Ray stated:

"Your president, George Harris, is to be commended for setting up this special session for regional vice-presidents as part of the Mid-winter Conference.

"It is without doubt a forward step in the execution of your duties as regional coordinators, and perhaps gives you an opportunity to plan a coordinated program for your fellow brokers during

CONDITIONS CHANGE

Ray said that in the past Negro brokers have limited their activities mainly to the sales of old homes. Ray said conditions are now favorable for them to enter the field as promoters, developers and sponsors of hmes fr Negroes and other minority groups.

"Unfortunately," said R a y, "this is a field into which only a few Negro brokers have ventured. One of the reasons expressed for this lack of participation is that there are so few Negro builders and contractors.

"We accept that as a fact, but at the same time wish to state that we no longer need to depend entirely on Negro builders, as considerable improvement and progress has come about in the active interest of builders generally in the minority market.

NEED DRIVE

"During the past three years housing agencies, with the cooperation of other groups, have waged a vigorous campaign of education and enlightenment directed toward getting white builders and contractors interested in the minority group housing market.

"It appears that this campaign has been successful. Now there are many white builders of record who specialize in providing such housing."

Ray said that land sites and finance are the two major problems confronting the sponsor or promoter of housing for Negroes.

Board President Donald Gunr said Watson and his committee deserved praise for their outstanding efforts in connection with the mil-

St. Louis Pushes $350-Million Slum Redevelopment

ST. LOUIS (NNPA) — The Board of Aldermen ,holding their final meeting of the 1957-58 fiscal year, cleared the way for a start on the $350,000,000 Mill Creek Valley redevelopment program when it passed two enabling bills last Friday by a vote of 27 to 1.

The legislation gave the go ahead signal to the Land Clearnce for Redevelopment Authority to negotiate a $50,000,000 loan to finance the purchase of land and demolition of buildings on the 465-acre site of the project.

One measure indorsed the proposal whose dwellings are to be replaced by new housing, commercial establishments and industrial plants.

COOPERATION PLEDGED

The other bill pledged municipal cooperation in providing such facilities as sewers ,street lights, sidewalks and new streets in defraying the city's one-third share of the cost of acquiring and clearing the land.

Alderman Clinton T. Watson, chairman of the housing and land clearnace committee, in an appeal for a favorable vote, declared the bills would pave the way for "a face-lifting project" of greater magnitude than had been taken by any city in the country.

Urban League Reports

85 Per Cent of St. Louis Negroes in Slum Homes

By R. C. FISHER

ST. LOUIS (ANP)—In a report, "Progress of Equal Opportunity in St. Louis Area," M. Leo Bohanon, executive director of the Urban League, noted, of the 60,000 of the Negro families in St. Louis, 85 per cent still live in slum or blighted areas, but the total number of housing units available to them continues to increase.

Availability of more private housing for Negroes, he continued, "is occasioned by the movement of white families to the country, since less than one per cent of all privately built housing in the St. Louis area is open to Negroes."

Displacement of 4,200 Negro families from the Mill Creek area (for redevelopment of the slum area in the heart of St. Louis) poses "a very serious problem," Mr. Bohanon asserted. Many will neither qualify for, nor accept low-cost public housing to be constructed in the area, he said.

IN THE absence of community facilities, he stated, the group will move to the west and northwestern sections of the city, making more critical the already existing potential housing problems in those areas.

"It is significant," Bohanon pointed out, "that Negro home ownership is on the increase; 25 per cent of the units occupied by Negroes are owned by them," he said.

If present and future planning and programming for a standard and a more progressive St. Louis is to be realistic, practical and sucecssful, it will of necessity "have to be more concerned than they have been to date with the conditions and problems of the Negro," Mr. Bohanon concluded.

'Desegregated private housing is good business'

ST. LOUIS — A successful Philadelphia housing promoter put his seal of approval on integrated private housing in First Unitarian Church here last week when he told a meeting of civic leaders, real estate men and ministers:

"Integrated private housing is a sound business proposition. He who would not want to be forced into a ghetto pattern should not force others to accept it."

The speaker was Morris Milgram, builder of two private housing developments in Princeton, N.J. Mr. Milgram said private housing proved successful in Philadelphia, Pa.

* * *

HE SAID "50 developments of private housing over the past 10 years" prove that private housing on an integrated basis is a sound business venture.

The First Unitarian Church meeting was jointly sponsored by the Unitarian Fellowship for Social Justice and the Fellowship of Reconciliation. The private housing businessman told his audience;

"Gilded ghettoes are increasingly nullifying the Supreme Court decision banning segregation in public schools. The ghettoes are established by people who mistakenly believe their efforts are humanitarian.

"But to the contrary, such building programs keep colored persons in an inferior status and cost 10 per cent of our population $15 million per year in lower or lost wages.

SOCIAL WORKERS FOR RIGHTS PLAN

National Association Sets Public Policy but Balks at Applying It at Home

Times 5/14

By EMMA HARRISON

Special to The New York Times.

CHICAGO, May 9—A convention of social workers passed a strong statement on civil rights and liberties here today, then faltered a bit in applying it at home. Sat 5-10-58

Rounding out its goals of public social policy, the delegate assembly of the National Association of Social Workers approved a program seeking speedy implementation of the Supreme Court decision on integration and its extension in other areas. It also asked for the following:

¶Government aid and support for public services to be given only as they are supplied without discrimination.

¶Strong anti-discrimination laws throughout all areas of employment and for use of public facilities.

¶Equal treatment for all before the law.

¶Establishment of a permanent Federal commission on civil rights with power of subpoena.

¶Assurance of the constitutional rights and dignity of public employes under investigation. New York Ny.

Discussion Hits Snag

The assembly then tried to apply a civil rights program to protect the employment rights of social workers. But the entire discussion became so hopelessly entangled with ethics and the question of when the exercise of civil rights was a violation of employment rights that the statement was approved in principle, but sent back to committee for more study.

Throughout the whole discussion the delegates made it clear that they were in agreement as to the goal: To protect social workers from losing their jobs through the proper exercise of their civil rights. Or, as one delegate put it: "If we believe in civil liberties we must be ready to apply them to ourselves."

Harold Silver of Detroit, chairman of the Commission on Personnel Practices and Standards, who presented the perplexing document, explained some of the circumstances that the association wanted to safeguard against. These were incidents mainly that involved social workers whom accusation or hint identified with subversive activity and who were dismissed by social agencies in some cases summarily.

Social workers are also concerned about dismissals or retaliatory actions leading to resignation that have occurred because some social workers, particularly in some sectors of the South, vocally favored the Supreme Court integration decision. An informal poll of some of the Southern members revealed varied reactions.

Forced Resignations Cited

One delegate from one of the hard core anti-integration states said that in several instances social workers had either lost their jobs or been forced to resign by intolerable reassignments when they had asserted themselves.

Although most Southern delegates came either instructed by their chapters or individually pledged to support civil rights platforms of the conference, many admitted that they would not like to be quoted.

Others in less adamant sections of the South said that while they were on record at home as favoring integration, they were not making speeches there but were moving slowly and quietly. Most workers, except in some of the very deeply entrenched segregationist areas, said that they were able to hold mixed meetings.

Joseph Anderson, executive director of the association, explained that one of the biggest problems now was in getting social workers particularly from the North to work in the South. He said that the employment rights program, which will range in action from censure of agencies to recommendation of all social workers to leave the offending agencies, might persuade them to take the jobs.

He said he thought it might serve to encourage social workers in the South to be more open in their work for integration, but this possibility was not seen by several Southern delegates who said they thought it would make no difference.

MUST LEARN MORE"

Speaker Says Negroes Can Help Own Housing Problem

OMAHA (AP) — An Omaha realtor said Monday that Negroes have a responsibility to solve their own housing problem and offered some suggestions on how to do it.

Said Alfred C. Kennedy:

"Negroes must learn more about real estate values, the responsibility of ownership, care of property and methods of doing business.

"Negroes should be encouraged to save money to have a sufficient amount for a reasonable down payment.

"Negroes should be encouraged to move into neighborhoods where housing meets their needs, even though it takes a great deal of courage to let their family be 'guinea pigs.'"

Kennedy was one of those taking part in workshop sessions of the annual conference of the National Urban League.

He said he considers public housing wrong in principle but conceded "if Omaha had not had public housing to absorb part of the growth of our Negro population, housing conditions would have been chaotic."

The League is an inter-racial organization seeking solutions to the economic and social problems of city Negroes.

A churchman describing Southern problems told a workshop session that "it has become rather evident that in nearly all of the white protestant churches the overwhelming majority of clergy are committed to the principle of segregation, whereas the majority of lay leadership is opposed."

The statement came from the Rev. Cornelius C. Tarplee of Lynchburg, Va., associate secretary of the Division of Christian Citizenship of the Protestant Episcopal Church's National Council.

Religious cults thrive in Negro slum area

Birmingham News
Birmingham Ala.
46a

EDITOR'S NOTE: In Harlem, segregation's citadel in the North, the division of races plays an important role in religious life, as this third of four articles on the world's most publicized Negro community notes.

BY JOHN MOSEDALE, North American Newspaper Alliance

NEW YORK, Oct. 7—Religion is not a Sunday affair in Harlem. It is a fundamental aspect of life, influencing everything from politics to picnics.

What the outsider hears about Harlem's religion revolves largely about its cults.

Stars are Father Divine, Sweet Daddy Grace, the storefront "faith healers" and such characters as the segregationist "Archbishop" C. E. Addison of the Universalist Church of the Living God, Commander of the League of Love, the African Stock Exchange Corporation, the Consolidated Development Corporation and the Supreme Council of Organization.

HISTORICALLY, the Negro church in America has been deeply involved in the slum streets of Harlem. On the slum streets of Negro Harlem this institution has had to mesh its activities to emphasize the problems of the here-and-now.

Thus, in addition to offering such mundane services as help in finding jobs, Harlem churches have often been the parents of these cults. Thus, Father Divine came to Harlem during the depression and established his "heavens" in converted houses in which free food were served.

Sweet Daddy Grace got his start in Harlem that day was a density of 336 persons per acre. One block housed more than 4000 persons. Called "the lung block" because of its runaway tuberculosis rate.

Despite the emphasis on the cults, sight has been lost of the church-going habits which worships in Harlem.

The difference, color and class, distinguish the congregations of the Abyssinian Baptist Church, St. Philip's Episcopal Church (the largest church in Harlem, nearly 3000 members), the Presbyterian Church of the Master and other long-established Harlem churches from Sunday worshippers elsewhere is the fact that attendance is often higher.

It is to St. Philip's that Harlem owes its very existence. Only a few rich Negroes lived along Harlem's broad streets among the city's white aristocracy in the 1890s when the Pennsylvania Railroad gave the Negro congregation of St. Philip's more than $500,000 in cash to move from midtown Manhattan so the railroad could build Penn station on church property.

WITH THIS MONEY the church purchased 13 large apartment houses in the very heart of present-day Harlem. Lenox Avenue quickly became a fashionable address for Negroes, and the whites moved out, paving the way for mass migrations from the South with the industrial expansion of pre-World War I days.

By 1920, there were 120,000 Negroes in New York, owning property worth only $20 million. The Rev. Adam Clayton Powell Sr., father of the flamboyant congressman, mourned that his people had not followed his advice and bought property as they moved in.

This white ownership of much of Harlem remains a sore point today. And it is a subject which is touched on in many of the churches themselves.

CONSIDER CONGR. Powell. He is pastor of Abyssinian Baptist Church, founded by his father. His congregation today numbers an astounding 13,000.

But his fame rests as much in the realm of Caesar as in that of God's. He stands today as undisputed political boss of Harlem. He first made headlines with his successful crusade to force white storeowners in Harlem to hire Negroes.

And whether he is pressing for a strong civil rights bill in Congress or speaking from the pulpit of his church, Powell clings to the emphasis on difference between white and black. He chooses a biblical text, but his sermon is secular: ". . . Whether it is in Algeria or the American South or in Harlem, N. Y., it is important that the white man learn one thing: 'Massa's in the cold, cold ground.'"

A visitor, the only white person in church on that morning, became sharply aware of the race issue for the first time in weeks in Harlem, and was reminded unpleasantly that Harlem has been the scene of a major race riot as recently as 1943 and that milder demonstrations occur sporadically.

THE MAJORITY of ministers in Harlem preach Christian amity and love between the races. But as one explained recently, ghetto conditions in the face of laws proclaiming equality make their task difficult.

And there are those who trade on hate. Little publicity has been given to a man who calls himself Messenger Elijah Muhammad, but a Harlem newspaper man calls him the community's hottest story.

He is a 60-year-old, Georgia-born Negro who has used the aliases Mohammed Rassoull and Elijah Poole. His story is that while walking the streets of Detroit in 1931, he met Allah, who told him that Negroes were Moslems and should throw aside the names of "the slavemasters."

He shortly established temples here, in Milwaukee, Chicago, Washington and other cities. He was booked by Detroit police on a charge of contributing to the delinquency of a minor in 1934. Nine years later, he was booked in Chicago in a sedition case and later that year was sentenced for violation of the Selective Service Act.

HIS MESSAGE is that Christianity is "the slave master's religion." He predicts the destruction of the white race. . . . "There will be no peace until America is destroyed, and no one will then live in America for a thousand years."

"Russia," he has said, "has the biggest and strongest army in the world." (Fifteen years ago, he was saying similar things about the Japanese army and urging Negroes not to register for the draft.)

It would be easy to dismiss the man as a cultist. It could also be a misake. Harlem police speak of improved relations with people in the precinct. They add, "that's why his Moslem business hasn't worked."

THEN THEY will tell you that following a scuffle which put one of Muhammed's followers in the hospital, crowds of silent, generally young, Negroes appeared in sullen picketing of the hospital and police station.

One Harlem resident said, "They jist stood there like stormtroopers." Police said the Negroes came overnight from points as far away as Boston and Philadelphia.

Questioned at his Chicago headquarters, Muhammed estimated his following at "between 25,000 and 35,000," with "8000 to 10,000 active followers." He claims about 500 followers in Harlem.

THIS, OF COURSE, represents only a tiny fraction of Harlem's religious life. The message of hate is nothing new to Harlem.

There was the anti-Semitism of Marcus Garvey's "Back to Africa" movement of the 1930s, some of which still hangs on. There are the various "Buy Black!" operations, aimed at white merchants.

And there is the gadfly United African Nationalist Movement of Georgia-born James R. Lawson, who turns up at the UN protesting policy toward Somaliland even as he cries out against the razing of the savoy ballroom in Harlem.

THE LINE BETWEEN politic and religion becomes very thin in Harlem. Most churches teach love. But most of them—whether they advise political action, or prayer, or Christian forbearance—emphasize repeatedly the differences between white and black.

One of Harlem's favorite stories is popular among members of the clergy. During the last great Harlem race riot—in 1943—a Chinese laundryman put a sign in his window as crowds smashed neighboring shops.

The sign read, "Me colored, too."

Ghetto life in Harlem isn't like legendary Negro Mecca of 20s

EDITOR'S NOTE—Everybody's heard of Harlem, but what do outsiders know of the teeming Black City in the heart of New York? To the Southern Negro it is hope for new life, but its segregation is as real as Little Rock's. To update a view of Harlem which dates largely back to carefree '20s, a NANA reporter interviewed scores of Harlemites, spent weeks in this unique community studying America's social problem.

News Pictorial
Seattle Wash
Oct 26 1958

BY JOHN MOSEDALE
North American Newspaper Alliance

NEW YORK, Oct. 4 — When American schools opened this Fall, headlines said that parents of nine children kept them home in protest against segregation.

This was not in Little Rock or Mississippi. It happened in Harlem, in New York City, lair of the liberal and part of that North which points an accusing finger at the South on race questions.

Later in the month the Rev. Martin Luther King of Montgomery, Ala., a noted figure for the part he had played in the Negro's fight against segregation, was rushed to a hospital after being stabbed. The hospital he was taken to is

So far, however, the laws have not entirely succeeded in overcoming the big problems.

Housing? Well, "camera rat" is a Harlem phrase for rats so tame by life in the slums that they do not budge when pictures are taken by flashbulbs.

And despite a long-standing law prohibiting discrimination in employment, Ramon C. Rivera, director of industrial relations for the Urban League of Greater New York, finds, "wide discrimination against Negroes looking for work exists in most if not all areas."

BUT FOR GOOD or ill, Harlem since the 1920s has been the international symbol of the American Negro. It is to Harlem—not Catfish Row—that the visiting foreign journalist comes to see how Negroes fare in this country.

There is an irony in this. Harlem, a ghetto without walls, citadel of another kind of segregation, is hardly a geographical community at all. It is more a community of the spirit.

It is located in the heart of the northern half of the island of Manhattan, a loose knot which unravels each year, taking in another block or two. But even as Harlem spreads out, its population wanes.

There is an exodus of middle-class and professional people from Harlem. These have given Harlem suburbs in the past decade—in Brooklyn, in Queens, in exurbanite counties.

There are an estimated 1,000,000 Negroes in and around New York. Of these, perhaps one-third live in Harlem—mak-

ing it, despite its fame, much smaller than such Negro sections as the Black Belt of Chicago's Southside.

Bottom rung

WITH EXCEPTIONS, most who can afford it react as did the young Negro school teacher who wanted to live in Manhattan but wound up in Brooklyn rather than take his wife and family to Harlem. He said "I'll live anyplace but 'the valley'," (a pseudonym for Harlem).

As a result of this attitude, Harlem has become the bottom rung of the social ladder for Negroes. (The arbiter of Harlem society, Molly Moon, lives in Queens.)

Like the growing middle class, most Negroes eminent in the arts are deserting Harlem. There are a few holdouts, such as Langston Hughes, the poet, and Duke Ellington, the band leader, but more typical is the fact that since organized baseball opened its doors to Negroes, neither the pioneering Jackie Robinson nor others of his race on New York teams lived in Harlem. A few decades ago it would have been unlikely that they live any place else.

Big changes

THIS IS NOT the only change in Harlem. Night life remains sprightly. But no longer do crowds of white people throng uptown after Broadway night. The Harlem of the "Hi-de-ho" is pretty well buried, along with the rest of the 1920s, when it was popular to think of Harlem as a playground occupied by children.

It is symbolic that the famed Savoy ballroom is being torn down. Once it was incubator for such dance steps as truckin', the shag, the Suzy-Q, and once it was home for the bands of such as Ellington, Jimmy Lunceford and Lionel Hampton. Now it will make way for a supermarket.

BUT HARLEM cannot change in its essence. Before this could happen, the community, which is a creature of prejudice, would have to disappear. Not one soul the visitor spoke to believes this will happen. As long as Negroes are set apart in the industrial North, they will live in ghettos, and Harlem will remain one.

In "Notes of a Native Son," the Negro essayist and novelist James Baldwin wrote: "Harlem, physically at least, has changed very little in my parents' lifetime or mine. Now, as then, the buildings are old and in desperate need of repair, the streets are crowded and dirty, there are too many human beings per square block. Rents are 10 to 58 per cent higher than anywhere else in the city; food, expensive everywhere, is more expensive here and of inferior quality."

BUT IT SEEMS that Harlem will remain the tawdry mecca it has become. Roi Ottley, a journalist of Negro life, has explained why:

"Harlem, a bite off Manhattan Island, is called the Negro capital. But it is more—it is the nerve center of Black America—a little from here, there and everywhere. . . . It is at once the capital of clowns, cults, and cagarets, and the cultured and intellectural hub of the Negro world. By turns, Harlem is provincial, worldly, cosmopolitan and naive . . . sometimes cynical."

Provincial . . . cynical, the other adjectives. The visitor to Harlem learns why they are applicable.

the most crowded in the city, has been called "filthy, dilapidated and falling down," is largely segregated and was condemned by the mayor more than two years ago as beyond rehabilitation.

"A Harlem tenement," one observer notes, "is 100 East River delta cabins, plus tuberculosis."

A woman educator concedes that Harlem schools do not always come up to some of the South's "separate but equal" establishments.

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Provincial . . . cynical, the other adjectives. The visitor to Harlem learns why they are applicable.

Discrimination Against Old Age

In the closing days of the last session of the New York State legislature two amendments to the present law against discrimination were passed unanimously. These amendments are extremely significant in a period when modern society is beginning to grapple with problems incidental to old age.

The first amendment adds the word "age" to the list of discriminations in employment already prohibited by the law: those based on race, creed, color and national origin. The prohibitions apply to employers, labor organizations and employment agencies and they concern all hiring, discharge, pay and conditions of work.

The second amendment seems to limit the ages to which the law applies by specifying persons "between the ages of 45 and 65." It adds "licensing agency" to those covered, but omits labor organizations.

While there are some ambiguities to be cleared up by those who will administer the law, we here are concerned in the main with the manner in which a similar plan may be sold to Illinois and other states. No one will deny that we are faced with a major social and economic responsibility to our aging population. Automatic and compulsory retirement plans, and discriminatory age limit in employment are from the point of view of economics and social engineering indubitably unsound.

Those who can work and are willing to work should not be forced to become wards of the state. It is better for the state and for the aged that the latter be self-supporting as long as they are physically fit.

Harlem Children Clearing Collyer Lot for Flowers

The New York Time

The youngsters dig in on site of demolished brownstone at Fifth Avenue and 128th Stree

On the site of the Collyer brownstone home at 128th Street and Fifth Avenue a group of youngsters yesterday cleared the now empty lot of rubbish and stones. They were preparing to plant flowers there.

Led by Mrs. Beatrice Lewis of 8 West 128th Street, the group cals itself the 128th Street Block Association. It is dedicated to keeping the area bound by Fifth and Lenox Avenues as clean as possible.

About one-quarter of the 20-by-75-foot lot was planted last May. Now, the association—it has a hundred members 9 to 14 years old—hopes to plant the rest of it.

Among the planted flowers are petunias, spiderworts, pansies and morning glories. The area is set off by a makeshint fence.

"It would be wonderful if somebody donated money so that we could put up a permanent fence," Mrs. Lewis said.

She recalled that soon after the brownstone house was torn down in 1947 she decided to try to keep the lot clean. The house had been occupied by Homer and Langley Collyer, eccentric brothers who were found dead amid tons of debris.

Anti-Discrimination Group Ask Ouster Of Housing Administrat

By CONRAD CLARK

NEW YORK—(ANP) — The National Committee Against Discrimination in Housing began a drive here on Sunday for the removal of Albert M. Cole as Federal Housing Administrator.

The cause of the committee's attack on Cole is based on a recent report issued by Mr. Cole who opposes integration (racial) in Federal housing.

Headed by Algernon D. Black, the committee has written a letter to President Eisenhower citing Cole's statements in San Francisco on Nov. 13.

In one of his statements, the Housing Administrator said that Federal Housing agencies would continue to observe state local segregation laws, because the government was under no obligation to impose integration on housing that received government a'd.

The committee represents 28 civic, religious, labor and civil rights organizations, and in the letter to the Chief Executive, Mr. Black asks:

"Do you approve the reported statements of Administrator Cole? If so, how do you reconcile them with your own pronouncements and our constitutional guarantees?"

Mr. Black wrote in the letter that if Mr. Cole's position did not reflect the President's view, "we think a change in personnel is indicated in favor of someone who would stand for the principles you have enunciated."

HOUSING OFFICE FINDS CHANGES IN 10 YEARS

Old, Single Applicants Show Big Increase

New York, Nov. 3 [Special] —The city housing authority looked back across 10 years and a million applications and found some interesting changes among the New Yorkers who want to move into public housing.

Five times as many single elderly persons applied for public housing last year as in the first year's operation of the central applications office in 1948.

In the same time there has been a strong trend toward larger families. In 1948, families with three to five children constituted 10.8 per cent of the applicants. Last year such large families made up 25.1 per cent.

The median income of families applying for public housing has gone up 10 per cent. A decade ago the median was $2,857; last year it was $3,131.

60,000 Waiting List

One thing that has changed but little is that applicants far outnumber the supply of available apartments. There is now a waiting list of 60,000 qualified families.

William Reid, housing authority chairman, said the imbalance between new applications and new apartments indicated "the need to continue and strengthen the public housing program here."

Reid said that 58,042 applications had been received in the first nine months of this year. In the same period, 6,772 new public housing units were completed. There are now 103,000 families living in the authority's federally aided, state-aided, and no-cash-subsidy developments.

Get Millionth Request

Reid said the millionth application was handled in the central office recently. Actually, the total since the authority was created in 1934 has been substantially larger. Until November, 1948, most applications had been processed at the individual projects as they opened. Seventy-nine thousand units have been built since 1948.

The increase in applications by elderly single persons results largely from the emphasis the authority has been giving to construction of special facilities for senior citizens.

The increase in the number of large families among applicants is largely a sociological phenomenon. The authority has recognized this by building a larger proportion of five-room units in the last few years.

CITY'S 'CREEPING SLUMS' OUTPACE ITS HOUSING PROGRAM

By CHARLES GRUTZNER

More than a million of New York's 8,000,000 residents are slum dwellers despite the fact that this city has torn down more slum buildings in the last ten years than any other American metropolis.

One reason is that overcrowding and blight have spread to new districts as fast as—and in some cases faster than—the wreckers and redevelopers could bring light, air, decent living space and sanitation into the old slum areas.

Manhattan's lower East Side has been vastly upgraded in little more than one generation. Yet, in almost the same time, the fine residential West Side district between Central Park and the Hudson River has become crisscrossed and pocketed with housing horrors as bad as those of any historic slum.

Steady Process

Both situations have been duplicated in other parts of the city. The slums don't hold still for the slum clearers. Their contagion is carried to new areas—sometimes by families displaced in the slum clearance process without adequate relocation. In some cases, slum conditions have worsened at the periphery of urban redevelopment and housing projects into which millions of public dollars have been poured.

An estimated 400,000 of the 2,250,000 dwelling units here are in slum buildings. About 282,000 of these fall short of the U. S. Census Bureau's standard housing requirements in that they lack private toilet or bath, are "cold water flats" or have no running water, or are in a bad state of physical deterioration. Another 118,000, though meeting the Census Bureau's low structural requirements, are so overcrowded and so violate the city's health, sanitary or occupancy standards as to warrant their inclusion in any slum count.

Most of the 400,000 are in the large, older slum districts, among which are Harlem, East Harlem, Chelsea, Hell's Kitchen, all in Manhattan, and Brooklyn's Bedford-Stuyvesant, Williamsburg and Brownsville districts. There are several large slum sections in southeast Bronx, and Queens has old slums in South Jamaica and Long Island City.

But many of the slum buildings are found also within the shadows of Columbia University and the other great educational, civic and religious institutions on Morningside Heights, and nudging fine apartment houses on Washington Heights. These are the "creeping slums" which spread blight into new areas.

Almost all the slum clearance since World War II has been for public housing or under the Federal urban renewal program of preparing sites for private redevelopment. The city's biggest step forward has been in construction of 102,000 public housing units in projects that dot every borough. A relatively small amount antedates the war. Some public housing has been built in open land areas, providing relocation for some of the families uprooted from slums.

If no new slums were to develop, and if there were enough money to tear down the rotten structures and provide relocation housing for the more than a million slum dwellers, New York could demolish its physical slums by leveling 7,000 acres of buildings.

The biggest single factor in slum clearance in the last few years has been the Federal urban renewal program. Robert Moses, the city's slum clearance chairman, in the last eight years has completed or got under way thirteen projects with Federal aid. They involve clearance of 227 acres of slums and the replacement of 20,437 bad housing units with 21,820 new units in addition to such embellishments as the Coliseum and the Lincoln Square cultural center. The net gain of 1,383 apartments is small in the face of the housing shortage, especially with some of the new housing on the slum sites renting from $50 to $100 a room.

Mr. Moses' over-all program, including another twenty-seven projects whose status ranges from glint-in-the-eye to advanced planning, would redevelop a total of 905 slum acres over the next decade and provide 65,000 new apartments at estimated costs of $208,649,284 to the Federal Government, $104,324,642 to the city, and more than a billion dollars to private investors.

This ambitious program would —if the money were forthcoming—clear only about one-eighth of the existing slum acreage, without necessarily halting the formation of new slums.

Rehabilitation Work

The Federal Government, which has already paid out or committed $138,000,000 towards the first thirteen projects, is worried about the "creeping slums."

Federal officials have suggested to Mayor Wagner that he assign a top city official to coordinate all city activities having to do with fighting slums.

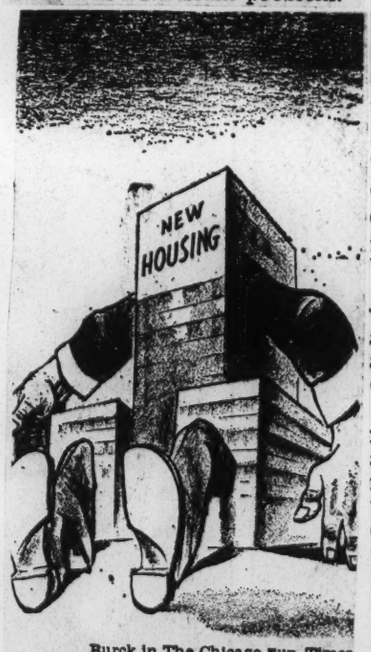
The complaints of the Federal officials, who have threatened to withhold further contributions, and the goadings of a grand jury that has turned the light on some of the city's most sickening slums have resulted in announcement by the Mayor of a new massive onslaught on slums, including better inspections, stiffer sentences for code volators and a number of other things, including assignment of Deputy Mayor Paul O'Keefe to look into the situation. These massive campaigns are launched every few years.

Lax Enforcement

Lax code enforcement is responsible for the persistence of many slum conditions. The Buildings Department has been notorious through the years for grafting inspectors. In addition, buildings officials to whom no suspicion of graft has attached have been reluctant to go all-out in enforcement.

Their stock answer has been that it's easy to put thousands of slum landlords out of business for violations, but what will happen to their thousands of tenants if the city condemns the buildings?

This brings the whole problem around once more to the housing shortage. Until private builders are able to provide new apartments at rents that most New Yorkers can pay—or until the economic level of thousands and thousands of families is raised to where they can pay existing rents in decent housing there will be a slum problem.



Burck in The Chicago Sun-Times

"Outgrown already."

JACK WANTS LAWS TO COMBAT SLUMS

Urges City Council to Take Prompt Action—Revision of State Code Asked

By CHARLES GRUTZNER

The city's "massive new attack" on slums spread yesterday into the legislative field.

Hulan E. Jack, Manhattan's Borough President, called for changes in the Multiple Dwelling Law to end "dungeon dwellings" in which families with children live in single rooms and share toilets and kitchens with other families.

Mr. Jack said he believed the City Council could make immediate changes under the city's home rule powers. He suggested also that the entire state law on multiple dwellings be revised and simplified.

Mr. Jack will seek support of the city's top elected officials for his proposals at today's executive meeting of the Board of Estimate.

One proposed change in the law would substitute square feet of floor space for cubic feet of room space as the measure of minimum space allowed for each person in a dwelling unit. Mr. Jack said that the cubic measurement permitted overcrowding when high-ceilinged old apartments were broken into smaller units.

Another suggested change would require separate toilet and kitchen facilities in any single room rented for family occupancy.

A third proposal would permanently outlaw conversion of apartments to one-room units for family occupancy. A moratorium on such conversion ordered three years ago, was extended last year to 1962. In the twenty years before the temporary halt, apartments in 572 buildings had been legally converted into thousands of single rooms for family occupancy in Manhattan alone, Mr. Jack said.

The Borough President will seek to have a city agency created to relocate families forced to vacate slum buildings because of illegal crowding or other building violations.

Mr. Jack made these and other proposals at a press conference he called in his office. He said he had been horrified and disgusted by the overcrowding, vermin, disrepair and other conditions he had viewed in a Harlem slum Monday.

Meanwhile, the teams of inspectors from several city departments continued the crash program of inspections begun Monday in the Morningside Heights area. Twenty additional teams will inspect that number of Brooklyn slum buildings in a search for violations, starting this morning.

More Inspectors Urged

Bernice P. Rogers, Deputy Building Commissioner, said the inspectors found conditions as gruesome as those disclosed Monday and were busy reporting additional violations.

Mr. Jack said he would ask the Board of Estimate to make funds available for increasing the number of building inspectors. He said he would seek a return to the system — abandoned some years ago because of a shortage of inspectors — of periodic inspections of all housing.

The routine inspections should be made at least every year and possibly more often, but there should be weekly inspections wherever a dangerous condition is found, Mr. Jack said.

He conceded that this would cost the city more money, but added:

"We must find the money somewhere. This is an emergency. The whole economic structure of the city is imperiled by the slums."

Mr. Jack said he also would ask the Board of Estimate to require a greater density in the construction of new public housing by the City Housing Authority. Housing structures in public projects now cover up to 22 per cent of the ground area, the rest being playgrounds, landscaped space, parking and community facilities. Mr. Jack said he wanted housing to cover at least 30 per cent of the site.

Displaced Families Cited

He will seek a further requirement that any public housing project must construct at least as many new apartments as there were housing units on the site.

In the last ten years, 44,182 families were displaced from the sites of nineteen public housing projects in Manhattan, which, when completed, had only 25,588 apartments, Mr. Jack said.

Race Relations Expert Named To City Housing Authority Post

M. S. Jones Gets First Job of Kind in a Move to Improve Projects

The City Housing Authority has chosen a special consultant on race relations. He is Madison S. Jones, who will assume the new $15,000-a-year post on Sept. 1.

William Reid, chairman of the authority, announced the appointment yesterday. For the last four years Mr. Jones has been a special housing assistant to the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People.

The appointment makes the City Housing Authority the first public housing group in the country to have a full-time salaried specialist on race relations. Among several problems on which Mr. Jones will work is how to achieve better racial balance in public housing developments in the city.

Of the more than 100,000 families living in public housing here, it is estimated that 44 per cent are white, other than Puerto Rican; 39.5 per cent Negro, 16.1 per cent Puerto Rican, and 0.4 per cent "Chinese and others." Some projects are almost all-white, other than Puerto Rican, while others are solidly Negro and Puerto Rican.

Concentration Cited

The Lincoln Houses in Harlem is 91.3 per cent Negro, 8.3 per cent Puerto Rican, 0.3 per cent other than white and 0.1 per cent others. Pelham Parkway Houses in the Bronx is 88.2 per cent white, other than Puerto Rican, 10.1 per cent Negro, 1.5 per cent Puerto Rican and 0.2 per cent others.

In an effort to attain better integration, the authority will expect Mr. Jones to devise new techniques in site selection, tenant selection and tenant relocation. One question that will have to be resolved is whether to use a quota system either openly or indirectly.

Mr. Jones' field also will cover the development of community relations and training authority personnel in race relations with applicants, tenants and neighbors. The authority will institute a training course for all its employes.

Mr. Jones, who was born in New York, is 48 years old and lives at 2255 Fifth Avenue. He is married and has one son. He was graduated from St. Johns University in 1939 and did graduate work at Columbia University.

He was youth secretary for the N.A.A.C.P. from 1940 to 1943 and then served for two years in the New York regional office of the Federal Fair Employment Practices Commission. He rejoined the N.A.A.C.P. in 1945 as administrative assistant to the late Walter White, who was executive secretary. From 1951 to 1954 he was a racial relations officers in the New York regional office of the Federal Housing Administration.

The appointment by the Housing Authority of a race relations expert had been recommended by City Administrator Charles F. Preusse in his 1957 report to Mayor Wagner on the administration of that agency. In his announcement yesterday Mr. Reid said:

"Mr. Preusse poited out that although the Housing Authority has made a notable record in making apartments available to all eligible families without regard to race, nationality or place of origin, nevertheless it is necessary to reassess the existing patterns by which public housing has been developed so far, including the policies which are leading to a heavy concentration of minority families in low-rent housing."

Madison S. Jones

National Corporation To Develop Equal Housing Program Started

NEW YORK CITY. — Leaders in the movement toward equal housing have formed a national corporation, Modern Community Developers, Inc., in Princeton, N. J., to aid builders of open occupancy housing with loans and advice.

Morris Milgram, Philadelphia builder, whose Greenbelt Knoll and Concord Park communities have won national fame, is president. Frank C. Montero, former associate executive director of the National Urban League is vice president.

A founding dinner for the organization was held on last Tuesday evening at the Savoy Plaza hotel, and Kivie Kaplan, a Boston manufacturer, and Jackie Robinson, baseball's first major leaguer, were honored for their contributions to equal housing opportunity.

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A. Philip Randolph, vice-president of the AFL-CIO, and president of the Brotherhood of Sleeping Car Porters, chairman of the national committee of dinner sponsorers opened the dinner.

OTHER SPEAKERS

Also speaking at the dinner were U.S. Senator William F. Proxmire, of Wisconsin, Charles Abrams, chairman of the New York State Commission Against Discrimination and John McDermott, secretary of the Catholic Housing Council of Philadelphia.

Scrolls of honor were awarded to New York State Rent Commissioner Robert C. Weaver; Marietta Tree, trustee of the National Urban League; David Scull, a desegregation leader of Virginia; and Algernon D. Black, a leader in the Ethical Culture Society, and chairman of the New York State Committee Against Discrimination.

Modern Community Developers will lend to builders of integrated housing, both private groups and cooperatives, a portion of the capital they need, usually between $25,000 and $50,000 on good security such as land.

ENTER CONTRACTS

Concurrently the company will enter into management contracts whereby such builders are advised on problems of building, sales, community relations, securing of risk capital, permanent mortgages and construction loans. The fee for this will be a share of the profit before taxes.

To finance these operations, $1,500,000 will be raised through the sale of common stock. Application is being made to register the issue with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

"The quiet word about the formation of MCD has prompted builders in five states—Illinois, Massachusetts, Michigan, Missouri and Ohio — to decide to give up all-white housing and build only integrated housing," Milgram has stated.

INTEGRATED HOUSING

"In most American cities, no new housing open to Negro and white alike has been built privately for decades. This has created a substantial backlog of demand. Last winter, for example, when Princeton Housing Associates announced plans to build integrated housing in that area, 18 houses were sold during the winter—six to Negroes and twelve to whites—in a price range of $17,450-$35,000."

Serving on the board of directors are: Benjamin J. Anderson, Princeton, N. J.; Dean Chamberlin, Scarsdale, N.Y.; Albert Sprague Coolidge, Cambridge, Mass.; Max Delson, New Rochelle, N. Y.; Morton S. Grossman, Quincy, Mass.; William Hooper, Yellow Springs, Ohio; Maynard C. Krueger, Chicago, Ill.; Jackie Robinson, Stamford, Conn.; William H. Scheide, Princeton, N. J.; David H Scull, Annandale, Va.; Marietta Tree, New York, N.Y.; and Stuart E. Wallace, Trevose, Pa.

A PUBLIC PROJECT AGES GRACEFULLY

Kingsborough Tenants Have Made Development and Its Area Better by Work

By CHARLES GRUTZNER

Time has brought many changes at Kingsborough Houses in Brooklyn since the nights when tenant vigilantes patrolled the sapling-lined walks, clubs in hand, to repel hoodlums from the surrounding slum.

The saplings have become sixty-foot sycamores, forty-foot maples and other full-grown trees. They spread over many of the thirty-five six-story buildings that checker a two-block area in the Bedford-Stuyvesant section.

And the tenants of the Federally aided, low-rent public housing, instead of fighting off invaders, have opened their community center and playgrounds to their non-project neighbors, especially the teen-agers.

These and other changes, wrought gradually, have brought advantages to the project and the area outside, according to tenants, the City Housing Authority and the police. Experiments have not always brought immediate success, and some problems always demand attention—as in any community of 4,000 persons—but housing officials are willing to match Kingsborough Houses against any community of families or low-income anywhere in the nation.

Two-Thirds Are Negro

When Kingsborough Houses was opened eighteen years ago, a large proportion of the tenants were families transplanted from the slums of Manhattan's Lower East Side. While many original families remain, more than two-dwellers have also become active in community house, church and civic groups in the adjoining community.

For one thing, gang fighting has disappeared from the project area and has diminished in the side blocks.

Housing Authority Patrolman Joseph Drake, a member of the project's own force of four officers and two guards, said:

"Three years ago the Corsair Lords and the Chaplains were making trouble here. We broke those gangs up. There has been no gang activity in the project this year. A few weeks ago the police broke up a rumble in the neighborhood outside."

Arrest statistics this year have been lower than for most communities of 4,000 persons. The project police have made a total of eleven arrests since Jan. 1, six of them for disorderly conduct, During the same period six project tenants were arrested by city police for felony offenses alleged to have been committed elsewhere.

Routine Keeps Police Busy

Routine police work keeps the project force occupied. On two successive nights recently Patrolman Drake's report said: "Dispersed youths singing and loitering in walks." One night he also chased a rooftop prowler who escaped.

Mrs. Gertrude Ford, who came here four months ago as project manager, said she was impressed by the tenants' pride in the project and by the vigor of the tenant organization. Under the Housing Authority's policy of rotating assignments, Mrs. Ford had been assigned to ten projects in the last twelve years, in posts from housing assistant to project manager.

"I generally figure 10 per cent of the shrubbery must be replaced annually, mostly because of vandalism," said Mrs. Ford. "We've got 40,000 shrubs here, so I wanted to order 4,000. The staff told me 400 would be more than enough because everybody takes good care of the shrubs. It looks like they were right."

On Mrs. Ford's first day on the job she was greeted by a delegation from the tenants' organization, with Mr. Serota as chairman of a grievance committee.

Cooperation Is Noted

"They've got their own minds about what they want, but they listen to reason and they really work at keeping this a good project," Mrs. Ford declared. "We get along beautifully."

The tenants have a committee of their own to curb mischief among the children. As one mother told it: "Some of those kids might sass a staff worker, but they listen to us—or else!"

Kingsborough Houses is one of the few places in the city with an area reserved for bicycle riding. When it was found that some of the playground space remained unused, while children dodged street traffic on their bikes, two good-sized areas were converted into bicycle tracks and children from outside were invited. There are three adequate playground areas left for ball playing that also have monkey bars, swings and other equipment.

About forty of the project's thirds of the tenants today are Negro.

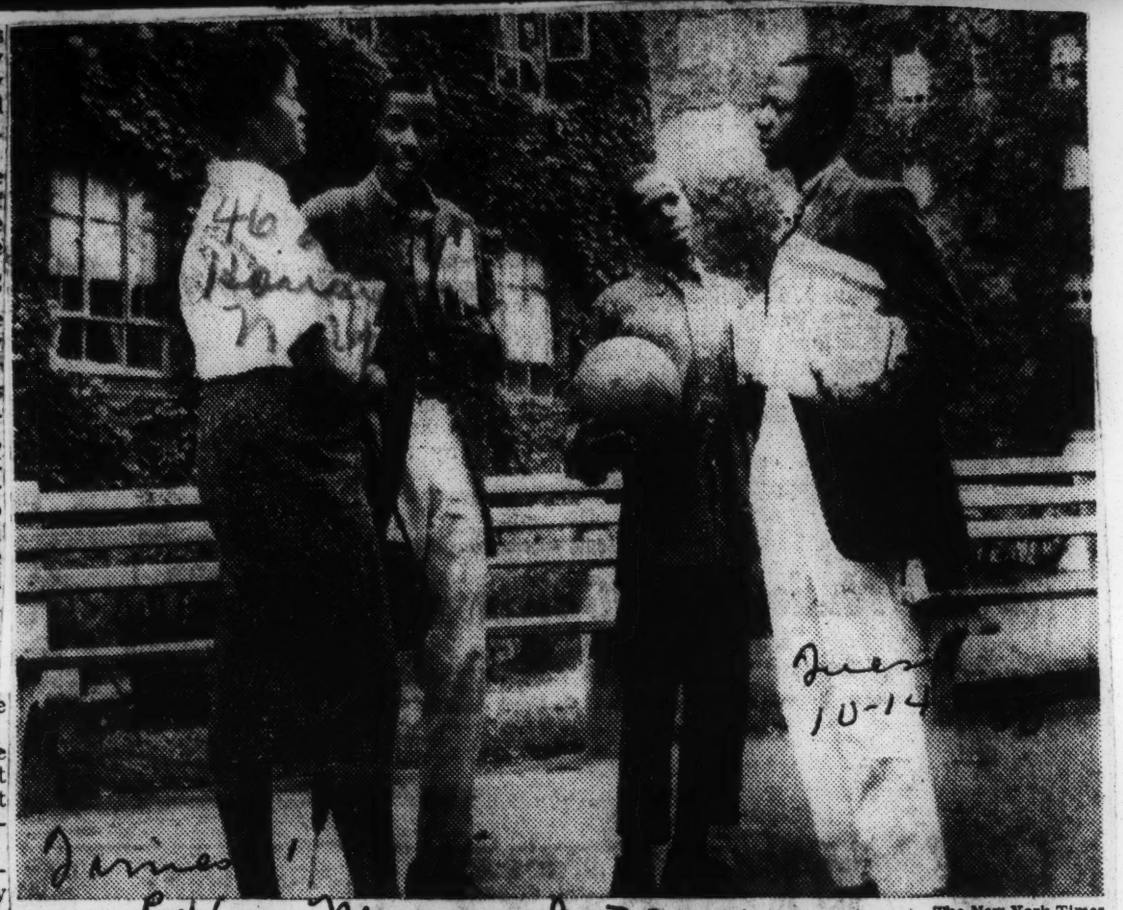
Of 1,165 families, 212 have lived in the project since it opened, 100 have been there at least fifteen years and ninety-three for more than ten years.

A vigorous tenant organization, closely knit since its early members had to stand together to repel invaders, has been responsible for much of the project improvement.

"Sixteen years ago we had a tenant committee of thirty men who patrolled the walks with clubs," said Joseph Serota, one of the long-time tenants. "There were tough gangs around us and we had to stick together. We don't need tenant patrols any more, but we still stick together. We take up with management responsibility for cracked windows, who's going to pay for new window shades and what new activities should be in the community center."

Bringing the neighborhood youths into the project's game rooms, kindergarten, carpentry and crafts shops and to dances is only part of the effort at good neighborliness. Project center for checkers, dominoes, pinochle and talk.

"This is one of our proudest communities," said Mrs. Ford, "but I would not call it unusual. There are far more Kingsboroughs going unnoticed among our public housing than there are projects whose faults get spectacular attention now and then."



The New York Times

A PROJECT IN TRANSITION: Students on their way home from school pause before some of the ivy-covered buildings of Kingsborough Houses. Time and the efforts of the tenants have wrought many changes since the days when tenant vigilantes had to fight off hoodlums from the surrounding slum in the Bedford-Stuyvesant section of Brooklyn.

Papers agree on ban for Jim-Crow ads

NEW YORK — New York's Commission on Intergroup [illegible] disclosed last week [illegible] the city's major newspapers have agreed to refuse types of real estate advertising which promote segregated housing practices.

Dr. Alfred L. Marrow, commission chairman, said that the agreement was made after a commission probe revealed that growing use of the term "interracial housing," although acceptable at first glance, actually was synonymous in use to "colored housing."

Representatives of the newspapers, called to a conference last July, were told by Dr. Frank S. Horne, executive director of the commission, that the term "interracial" was in violation of the fair housing practices law.

After agreement that such advertising was harmful, the papers' representatives decided against its acceptance.

Civil Liberties Union Seeks To Prevent Segregated Housing In State Of New Jersey

(ADVANCE) NEW YORK, JULY —The American Civil Liberties Union called on New Jersey Attorney General Furman today to withdraw state approval of the corporation charters of builder William Levitt. Levitt has announced that he will not sell homes to Negroes in the Levittown development being built in Burlington County.

Declaring that the Levitt policy violates New Jersey's public policy, constitution and laws, the ACLU asked Furman to vacate the charter of Levitt's New Jesey corporation and suspend the license of the builder's New York corporation, to assure that the use of the New Jersey corporation laws in aid of this illegal scheme. It is well settled that corporate privileges may be denied to both foreign and domestic companies which seek to break a state's law and violate its public policy."

The ACLU letter, signed by national executive director Patrick Murphy Malin and New Jersey counsel Emil Oxfeld, asserted that "Mr. Levitt is not only promoting bigotry. He is . . . proposing to create an entire township dedicated to the principle of segregation and served by schools admitting only white children."

The full text of the letter follows:

"On behalf of the American Civil Liberties Union, we wish to comment on certain problems raised by the statement of William Levitt that he will refuse to make sales to Negroes in the Levittown project being built in Burlington County. That this disclosure shocks the people of the state is indicated by the unanamous vote of your State Assembly in condemning Mr. Levitt for this declaration and announcing the policy of the state to be opposed to such racial discrimination. This resolution, in effect, is a reaffirmation of the declaration of Rights and Privileges in the New Jersey Constitution, guaranteeing to all persons the right to acquire property (New Jersey Const. Art. I Sec. 1), forbidding discrimination in the exercise of civil rights (Art.I Sec. 5) and prohibiting segregation in the public schools (Art.). By his announced policy, Mr. Levitt is not only promoting bigotry; he is, in effect, proposing to create an entire township dedicated to the principle of segregation and served by schools admitting only white children. The disastrous results of permitting such a community to be established are shown by the serious disturbances which took place in Levittown Pennsylvanaia, last summer.

"Now is the time for the state of New Jersey to permit a similar situation in Burlington County.

LUXURY HOUSING OPENS IN HARLEM

Lenox Terrace Project, on Slum Site, Called Example of Obstacles and Success

By CHARLES GRUTZNER

A $20,000,000 apartment development with gold-braided doormen, oversized living rooms, balconies, high rents and luxury features, was opened yesterday on a three-block site that had been one of the most dismal slums.

Robert Moses, chairman of the Committee on Slum Clearance, addressed 300 tenants, civic leaders, bankers and city, state and Federal officials. He told them that the history of the Lenox Terrace project had had all the early disappointments and later successes of New York's urban redevelopment program.

Lenox Terrace, originally called Godfrey Nurse Houses, went into planning nine years ago as one of the first privately sponsored projects under the city-Federal slum clearance program. It survived a tenant relocation scandal, delays caused by financing difficulties and other vicissitudes to emerge as one of Harlem's proudest residential developments.

The Lenox Terrace site extends from Fifth Avenue to Lenox Avenue, between 132d and 135th Streets. Three sixteen-story buildings are nearly completed and construction will start soon on the last three. Tenants began moving into the first building in June, and 316 apartments are now occupied in two buildings.

The development will eventually have 1,716 apartments. Rents range from $96 for two rooms to $190 for five rooms with two baths. Tenancy to date is almost entirely Negro.

Report on Relocation

Mr. Moses referred to the early difficulties, which he said were "in part inescapable in launching any big new program involving uprooting people from slums and moving them." He said that 1,843 of the 3,438 families who were living on the old tenement site had been relocated, "and the remainder will follow."

The New York Times

DEDICATED IN HARLEM: This is one of the three nearly completed sixteen-story apartment buildings of Lenox Terrace. Three other buildings are to be erected on site between 132d and 135th Streets and Fifth and Lenox Avenues. Area used to be a slum

"Not all the site families have been satisfied with our arrangements for their relocation," Mr. Moses said. "We have improved our methods as we have gone along."

Borough President Hulan E. Jack declared that in getting private financing the project sponsors had "broken the barrier" that banks had long maintained against substantial investment in new housing for Harlem.

Robert S. Olnick, Lenox Terrace president, said that 20 per cent of the tenants were former Harlem residents who had moved to Westchester, Long Island and New Jersey because of the local unavailability of good housing and had now returned because they preferred city living.

Robert C. Weaver, State Rent Administrator, read a congratulatory message from Governor Harriman. Walter S. Fried, regional administrator of the Housing and Home Finance Agency, and Joseph Nardone, director of the New York office of the Federal Housing Administration, also praised the development as a step in the rehabilitation of Harlem.

Lenox Terrace adjoins the Metropolitan Life Insurance Company's Riverton Houses of 1,232 medium-rent apartments built in 1949, and the low-rent Abraham Lincoln public housing of 1,286 units built in 1948. With completion of Lenox Terrace they will make up a community of about 15,000 persons of three different income levels.

S. J. Kessler & Sons were the architects and engineers of Lenox Terrace.

Earl Brown Hits Race Tag In Slum Clearance Project

NEW York — (ANP) — Councilman Earl Brown got the city's slum clearance committee to drop racial designation on tenant-relocation records after he attacked the practice on the floor of the city council last week.

Following Brown's protest, the council unanimously adopted a resolution calling on the slum committee and other related agencies to discontinue relocation practice requiring tenants to list race, religion and national origin.

The protest also brought swift action from George E. Spargo, assistant chairman of the slum committee. Informed of the resolution, Spargo ordered the "race" tag section deleted from the forms at once. He said, it should never have been there in the first place."

Brown, Democratic candidate for congress and opponent of incumbent Adam Clayton Powell, had produced an official relocation record of the "Office of Committee on Slum Clearance" that required occupants of sites being cleared for slum clearance to list their races.

For Negro Cooperatives

To THE EDITOR OF THE NEW YORK TIMES:

Referring to Alfred J. Marrow's letter in behalf of the Intergroup Relations Commission, speaking for more housing, the organization could help considerably by inducing middle-income Negroes to enter the lists and set up their own cooperative housing, inviting white families to join with them—a kind of integration in reverse. Herbert Bayard Swope, Mr. Marrow's predecessor, thought this "self-help" idea worth looking into. CHARLES O. PLATT.

New York, July 3, 1958.

Contractor Refuses To Yield House Title To Negro Lawyer

ALBANY, N.Y. (AP) — A contractor was fined $250 Tuesday and held in contempt for ignoring a state Supreme Court order directing him to give a Negro attorney title to a home.

Since the original court order was issued, a bank has foreclosed on a mortgage on the house in suburban Loudonville.

The attorney, Peter M. Pryor, agreed to purchase the house for $26,500 under a contract signed June 3, 1957, with the contractor, Charles J. Bednarczyk.

Pryor claimed that a month later Bednarczyk told him he could not go through with the transaction. Pryor said he had paid $1,000 down.

The attorney sued to compel the sale. Meanwhile, Bednarczyk lost title to the property last December when the bank foreclosed.

Bednarczyk failed to appear in the action brought by Pryor and a default judgment was granted directing the contractor to deliver title. Bednarczyk argued that he could not and Pryor brought the contempt suit.

Supreme Court Justice Kenneth S. MacAffer, who fined Bednarczyk and held him in contempt, also awarded Pryor $60 costs.

MacAffer noted that Bednarczyk could not convey title to the house now.

NEW HARLEM HOUSING

5 Model Apartments Ready at Lenox Terrace Site

Harlem's first large housing development for upper middle-income families will open five model apartments for public inspection today.

The units, with two to five rooms, are in the first building of the $20,000,000 Lenox Terrace, under construction in the vicinity of Fifth Avenue and 135th Street with Federal and city slum-clearance aid.

Six sixteen-story buildings will be erected. The first building, with 286 apartments, will be ready for occupancy next month. Two other buildings will be completed this summer. The entire project will have 1,716 apartments, with rentals from $96 for two rooms to $190 for a five-room suite with two baths.

The model apartments will be open from 9 A. M. to 7 P. M. daily.

otham Housing Integration Policy Fails

ecause Whites Move Out, Survey Reports

NEW YORK (N. Y.) — A policy to prevent discrimination against Negroes in city housing has resulted in whites moving out, thereby defeating its purpose of integration, a citizens' survey said Sunday.

The policy of ignoring color should be abandoned in favor of one which would select tenants so as to preserve a ratio among the races, it recommended.

The report said the so-called "color blind" policy was "in the purest sense non-discriminatory," but in actual practice had failed to halt "a marked trend toward a decrease in occupancy by white families in all projects . . ."

Along with other changes in policy, the report advocated "substitution of positive techniques to achieve and maintain retail balance within projects in all parts of the city."

The authorities was asked to "issue a firm and unequivocal statement as to its determination to develop and maintain integration."

This statement is necessary, the report said, "to assure that the public — including potential white applicants — will understand that the public housing projects are not on an inevitable slide to complete minority occupancy."

The report was prepared after a six-month study by 38 housing experts, real estate operators, welfare, business, church and other civic leaders.

The study was sponsored by the Citizens' Housing and Planning Council of New York Inc.

Two housing projects were cited to show the change in occupancy — the Red Hook Houses in Brooklyn and Edenwald in the Bronx.

When the first section of Red Hook Houses was tenanted in 1939, the report said, "the racial composition was 98.7 per cent white and 1.3 per cent Negro. As of last Dec. 31, this had changed to 32.6 per cent white, 50.2 per cent Negro, and 17.2 per cent Puerto Rican.

Initial occupancy of Edenwald, the report noted, in 1953 was 65.6 per cent white, 25.2 per cent Negro, and 9.2 per cent Puerto Rican. by last Dec. 31, it had become 49.5 per cent white, 36.5 per cent Negro, and 14 per cent Puerto Rican.

NEGROES SEEKING MORE HOME AREAS

Urban League Lists Houses and Apartments All Over City for Applicants

By CHARLES GRUTZNER

The Urban League of Greater New York is encouraging Negroes to apply for housing in areas of this city where they have been unable up to now to rent apartments or buy homes.

The league has prepared a directory of ninety-three large apartment house developments in Manhattan, the Bronx, Brooklyn and Queens. It lists apartment size, rentals and addresses and telephone numbers of renting agents.

Paget L. Alves, housing director for the league, said some of the developments, but not all, had previously rejected Negro applicants. All are in neighborhoods that he described as largely segregated white communities. The Sharkey-Brown-Isaacs Law has made it illegal since April 1 to discriminate for race, color or religion in the sale or rental of most housing in the city.

Mr. Paget said the league would give assistance "in making a complaint to the proper governmental agencies" to any applicant encountering difficulty in renting or buying a home because of his race, color or religion. He said the directory was "designed to encourage apartment applications by Negroes and other minorities in areas that are now largely segregated."

The directory lists developments with 100 or more apartments — including some of the largest in the city—that either have vacancies or keep waiting lists, Mr. Paget said.

Other Homes also Listed

The league also issued a supplementary bulletin of forty-five developments of rental or cooperative apartments and one-family houses for sale in this city, Long Island and New Jersey. Those dwellings, built with Federal mortgage insurance or other forms of government aid, have been covered by anti-discrimination laws for more than a year. Some have accepted Negroes, and others, not yet completed, have invited Negro applications.

Both lists are available on written request to the Urban League at 204 West 136th Street, New York 30.

The foreword to the directory says:

"The Urban League is in no way connected with the projects listed below. We make this information available to the community in the belief that there are people interested in housing resources of this type. If the price or location appeals to you, we suggest that you communicate with the development. All these developments are covered by anti-bias laws, specifically the Sharkey-Brown-Isaacs Law; in the event of difficulty, the league will assist you in making a complaint to the proper governmental agencies."

NON-WHITES SHOW 50% HOUSING GAIN

City Analysis of '56 Census Reflects 6-Year Rise, but Little for New Buildings

At the end of 1956, non-white persons occupied 975,000 dwelling units in the metropolitan area, an increase of about 50 per cent since 1950.

Despite this sharp increase, relatively little of the area's new housing went to the non-white population between 1950 and 1956.

These findings, yesterday, of the City Planning Commission were based on an analysis of initial reports by the United States Census Bureau on its sample survey of changes in the housing inventory of the metropolitan area since the 1950 general census.

The survey covered the New York-northeastern New Jersey area. The Planning Commission reported this as taking in seventeen counties: New York, the Bronx, Kings, Queens, Richmond, Nassau, Suffolk, Rockland and Westchester in New York, and Bergen, Essex, Hudson, Middlesex, Morris, Passaic, Somerset and Union in New Jersey.

Of the dwelling units now occupied by non-whites, according to the survey, only 32,000 were built since 1950, while 21,000 others were created by conversion and rehabilitation.

Of the 322,000 units now occupied by non-whites and in existence at the time of the 1950 census, 100,000 had passed from white occupancy.

This new construction, the planning commission emphasized, played a relatively small role in housing the growing non-white population. For the most part, the increase in non-white households was accommodated by a transfer of older units from whites to non-whites.

The survey found a 1956 supply of 4,631,000 dwelling units in the area studied. This was a 17 per cent increase over the 1950 figure. The net gain was 677,000 units, representing the sum of 787,000 new units plus 102,000 units gained from conversion and other sources, less 162,000 units demolished or otherwise withdrawn from inventory.

Unlike the country as a whole, the housing inventory in the New York area deteriorated in quality between 1950 and 1956.

Among the 3,706,000 dwelling units surveyed in this area in both 1950 and 1956, the proportion of dilapidated units or those lacking full dwelling facilities increased from 9.8 to 11.4 per cent. The decline in quality was found to be more pronounced in rental housing than in ownership housing.

Mounting Costs Cited

"Since the city accounts for 75 per cent or more of the area's rental stock," the Planning Commission reported, "it is reasonable to assume that at least a proportionate increase in the incidence of housing deficiencies occurred here."

The steadily mounting costs of housing were noted in the Planning Commission's analysis. The median rental of 1950 dwelling units resurveyed in 1956 rose from $42 to $53. The median value of one-family homes increased from $12,800 to $16,300.

The median contract rent in 1956 of new rental units—including publicly aided apartments—was $97 a month, while the median value of new one-family homes was $17,200.

"Clearly," the city planners found, "a much wider differential exists between the rents of new and old apartments than between the prices of new and old one-family houses."

Only 41,000 available vacancies were reported among the 3,700,000 units built in 1950 or earlier, a vacancy rate of about 1 per cent, according to the study.

A higher vacancy rate, 28,000 units, or more than 3 per cent, was reported for the 925,000 units added since 1950.

The Planning Commission's analysis of the 1956 housing census was included in the July-August issue of its periodic Newsletter distributed to city agencies and civic and professional organizations.

BIAS INQUIRY SET FOR HOUSING UNIT

But City Intergroup Board's Right to Make Study Is Questioned by Peer

The Mayor's Commission on Intergroup Relations has begun an investigation into charges of racial and religious discrimination in the City Housing Authority.

The inquiry arose from charges made to the commission last Thursday by John J. Lennox, chief of the authority's police force. He committeed suicide the next day after telling his wife he feared dismissal from his job.

Mr. Lennox had told the commission of an anonymous "hate" letter attacking him for appointing Negroes to his police force.

The letter has been examined by the police laboratory unit, which compared it with typewriter specimens supplied by the authority. Tests showed it had not been written on any of the authority's typewriters, according to Deputy Police Commissioner Walter Arm. He said it had been typed on a 1927 model Underwood.

Dr. Frank Horne, executive director of the commission, held a staff meeting on the case yesterday. He then got in touch with Alfred J. Marrow, chairman of the commission, who was in Washington. Mr. Marrow called an emergency meeting of commission members for this afternoon at its offices, 150 Nassau Street. The meeting will determine on a course of action.

Authority Is Questioned

The decision to hold the meeting followed the development of an apparent misunderstanding between the commission and Mayor Wagner's office on the commission's power to conduct an investigation.

The announcement by the commission that it was making an investigation was followed by a statement from William R. Peer, the Mayor's executive secretary, that Mr. Wagner had not authorized such action.

Mr. Peer said that the commission had to ask the Mayor's permission to make an investigation, and that it had not done so. A spokesman for the commission, Sid Frigand, replied that it was not required under the law to await orders from the Mayor, but only to consult with him before beginning an investigation.

Mr. Frigand said the commission had sent a confidential report to the Mayor on Monday, telling him it was "looking into" the Lennox charges. He said the commission had assumed it had the Mayor's permission to make the investigation in the absence of any indication to the contrary.

Edward S. Lewis, executive director of the Urban League of Greater New York, urged the Mayor to order a "full and public" investigation by the commission.

New York City Law On Race-Housing

Mayor Wagner of New York City has done what was expected and signed into law a city ordinance forbidding the barring of Negroes from privately-owned multiple dwelling houses or apartments.

The measure is broadly phrased to include race, national origin and so on. It most specifically applies, in New York City's case, to Negroes and Puerto Ricans, whom Gotham has running out of its metropolitan ears.

The measure will be further contested, in the courts, say realtors. It should be, and they have in our view sound reasoning behind their challenge of its constitutionality.

To tell a property owner to whom he must not bar tenancy is only the other side of the card telling him to whom he must rent quarters.

This is a flat invasion of private property rights, and has nothing to do with such matters as governmental supervision of property paid for with public funds.

A Negro councilman says this law will strengthen the nation's standing "from here to New Delhi, to Capetown and even Vladivostok."

It may do that to a degree, many foreign peoples being sensitive to the extreme about American racial problems.

But under our American law as we always have seen it, private property is private property, and this remains a new invasion. We trust courts will ultimately so hold.

Housing Color Bar Illegal

Broad ruling opens 50,000 apartments to everybody

WHITE PLAINS, N.Y. — The State Supreme Court, in a far-reaching decision involving the civil rights of colored people, ruled Thursday that the luxury apartments at 300 Pelham Rd., New Rochelle, must admit colored persons as tenants.

Acceptance of Federal Housing Administration construction loans brought the 100-family building under the jurisdiction of the state's anti-segregation law, the court said.

Charles Abrams, head of the State Commission Against Discrimination, which had brought the proceedings, hailed the decision as a "significant landmark" in a test case believed to be the first of its kind in the country.

* * *

MORE THAN 1,000 buildings holding about 50,000 apartment suites built in New York State with FHA assistance since July 1, 1955, were affected by Thursday's ruling, Commissioner Abrams said.

He said the commission was prepared to go before the U.S. Supreme Court if necessary to win confirmation of the decision.

Joseph R. Pisani, attorney for the owners of the building, said he plans to appeal.

Mr. Abrams said that the owners of the buildings would be given time, probably 30 days, to comply with the court order.

* * *

IF THEY fail to do so, a contempt of court citation would be brought. Such citations could result in fines or jail sentences.

The proceedings were begun last July under the anti-discrimination amendments, adopted by the state legislature on behalf of Norris G. Shervington, ex-Chicago businessman who had come to Westchester and was refused an apartment in the Rochelle Arms, the New Rochelle building involved.

It was occupied by Palham Hall Apartments Inc., the corporate incumbent of the suit.

Mr. Shervington is field office manager for Associated Publishers, an advertising Agency. He now has temporary quarters in the Morningside Garden Housing Project, according to SCAD officials, who believe he still wants to settle with his wife and one child at the Rochelle Arms.

The owners of the project, Alberto Pompa, Vincenzo Coconato and Joseph Markoly, had contended that a private owner of property has the right to sell or rent to whom he choses, and that the legislation abridging this right is a step toward state control and is therefore unconstitutional.

* * *

DISPOSING OF this claim, Justice Samuel W. Eager, who had heard argument on the case here on Nov. 26, wrote:

"The ownership of private property, free of unreasonable restriction upon the control thereof, is truly a part of our way of life, but, on the other hand, we, as a people do hold firmly to the philosophy that all men are created equal.

"Indeed, discrimination against any individual here on account of race, color or religion is antagonistic to fundamental tenents of our form of government and of the God in whom we place our trust.

"Involved here, it is said, is an apparent collision of rights, namely a clash between the right on one hand of a private owner of property to enjoy and use it in the manner most desirable and/or profitable to him and the right on the other hand of all individuals here to be treated equally and free of all discrimination on account of race, color or religion.

"In the final analysis, however, what is here involved is a conflict between the rights of the private property owner and the inherent power of the state to regulate the use and enjoyment of private property in the interest of the public; and the power of the state, when reasonably exercised, is supreme."

Judge Eager said that the legislature exercised its prerogative in bringing multi-family buildings built with FHA funds under jurisdiction of the Civil Rights law.

MEANWHILE ON another front, the Mayor of New York City, Robert Wagner authorized the Commission on Intergroup Relations to investigate allegations of racial and religious bias in the operation of the New York City Housing Authority.

The commission at a late afternoon meeting Thursday decided to undertake the investigation, pledging to do so "in a spirit of complete fairness and objectivity."

The allegations against the CHA were made by the late John Lennox, head of the authority's police force on Jan. 9 before he committed suicide on Jan. 10. The details of Mr. Lennox's complaints have been withheld by the COIR.

Theophilus Lewis, a staff member of the Catholic Interracial Council and the Rev. Gardner C. Taylor, pastor of the Concord Baptist Church, have been named as two of the five men on the COIR investigation committee.

* * *

THE DAY following Justice Eager's decision, Assemblymen George Metcalf and Bertram Baker introduced an even more far-reaching piece of legislation in the New York State Assembly.

As predicted by the AFRO six weeks ago, the two solons called for the enactment of legislation that would prohibit discrimination in all public and private dwelling in New York State.

Even developments not employing state or Federal funds would be included. The proposed legislation is modeled after the bill passed by the New York City Council last year.

HOUSING BIAS BAN URGED

New Bill to Cover Rentals of Privately Owned Homes

Special to The New York Times.

ALBANY, Jan. 16—A statewide ban against discrimination in the rental of privately owned apartments was proposed in the Legislature today under bipartisan sponsorship.

In purpose and terms, the measure is similar to the provisions of the Brown-Sharkey-Isaacs law recently enacted in New York City.

In troducing the bill here were Senator George H. Metcalf, Republican of Auburn, and Assemblyman Bertram Baker, Democrat of Brooklyn. They are the authors of earlier legislation that now bans discrimination in the rental of publicly-aided housing such as limited-dividend developments and housing aided by mortgages obtained through the Federal Housing Administration and Veterans Administration.

Their present proposal would outlaw discrimination based on race, creed, color or national origin in all rentals in privately-owned multiple dwellings and in the sale of single-family homes in developments of ten or more.

The bill would place enforcement powers in the hands of the State Commission Against Discrimination.

In filing the bill, Senator Metcalf and Assemblyman Baker said that "despite excellent civil rights legislation in New York State, racial and religious discrimination is still practiced in the major portion of private housing."

This discrimination, they said, has resulted in residential segregation that has serious implications for schools, recreational facilities, hospitals, churches and other aspects of life.

"Housing and neighborhood segregation," they continued, "are the chief factors perpetuating a segregated society. The restricted neighborhood has been called the North's substitute for the Southern Jim Crow. While New York State has led the nation in civil rights legislation, discrimination is still the general rule in the housing market.

"We are aware that mere passage of the new legislation will not wipe out housing segregation and discrimination overnight, but it will establish a moral basis where negotiation education and conciliation procedures can be made effective."

Landlord's Rights Upheld

The legislators noted that the bill would not interfere with a landlord's right to select tenants with regard to creed, standing, character or any other standard of admission, except race, religion, color, or national origin.

The bill contains an exclusion for accommodations operated by religious organizations for educational or charitable purposes.

Enactment of the New York City law has heightened interest in a state-wide ban. Governor Harriman has called for such a law in each of his annual messages to the Legislature.

The Metcalf-Baker proposal has been before the Legislature for two years but has not been moved out of committee. It is backed by the major civic, civil rights, religious and labor organizations of the state. As was the case in New York City, it is expected to be strongly opposed by real estate interests.

STATE IS UPHELD ON HOUSING BIAS

Apartment in New Rochelle Must Rent to a Negro—Court Cites 1956 Law

Special to The New York Times.

WHITE PLAINS, Jan. 16—A New York State Supreme Court justice ruled today that a New Rochelle luxury apartment house must rent to a Negro.

Justice Samuel W. Eager upheld the constitutionality of a 1956 law under which the State Commission Against Discrimination had ordered the apartment house to accept the Negro. Counsel for the property owners said he would, if necessary, appeal to the United States Supreme Court.

Charles Abrams, chairman of the state commission, indicated that, unless the owners of the apartment, Rochelle Arms, complied with the court's order within a "reasonable" time, probably thirty days, he would move for a charge of contempt of court. A citation for contempt would carry possible fines or imprisonment.

The state commission adjudged last July that the landlord had been guilty of deliberate discrimination by refusing an apartment to Norris G. Shervington, a New York office manager, because he is a Negro. The commission relied upon the Metcalf-Baker Act of 1956, which opened to all tenants any multiple dwelling financed in part or in entirety by public agencies since July 1, 1955.

Henry Spitz, general counsel for the commission, conceded in arguments before Justice Eager that Rochelle Arms had received a Federal Housing Authority commitment on June 30, 1955, to guarantee $1,720,000, to be lent by the Irving Trust Company of New York, for construction of the apartment house.

He noted, however, that the loan was cut later to $1,676,000 and was made by the Lincoln Savings Bank of Brooklyn. He said that no money was paid until after the effective date of the law and that a supplemental mortgage of $209,500 was guaranteed by the F. H. A. last May.

Joseph R. Pisani of New Rochelle, counsel for the landlord, insisted that, because the landlord had received no financial aid from the state, the commission had no constitutional right to regulate the apartment house's choice of tenants. He declared also that the state was making unlawful retroactive application of the Metcalf-Baker measure.

Justice Eager, in his far-reaching decision, ruled that action "by legislative bodies to eliminate the practice of racial discrimination in affairs closely connected with the lives of our citizens is not only a reasonable but, in view of the changing times and circumstances, a required method of procedure in the interest of public welfare."

"The Legislature," he wrote, "was authorized to proceed as it did in imposing a ban against discrimination in housng; that is, by gradual steps, beginning with provisions applicable to various classes of publicly owned and managed housing and, over a period of time, extending the provisions to specified classes of private housing projects inaugurated or carried out with governmental assistance * * *."

In his opinion Justice Eager held also that the state had the right "to put its authority behind one of the cherished aims of American feeling by forbidding indulgence in racial or religious prejudice."

The commission's suit was brought against the Pelham Hall Apartments, Inc., which operates Rochelle Arms, and the corporation's owners, Alberico Pompa, Vincenzo Coconato and Joseph Markoly. Rochelle Arms is at 300 Pelham Road.

46 JOIN HOUSING POLICE

They Complete Training and Raise Force to 305 Men

Forty-six new patrolmen were graduated yesterday into the city Housing Authority police force, raising its ranks to 305 men.

Former Police Commissioner Arthur W. Wallander, consultant to the Housing Authority, said the force was aiming at a strength of 500 men. The graduation exercises, marking the completion of a training course, were held at the Hamilton-Madison House, the community center of the Gov. Alfred E. Smith Houses on the lower East Side.

Twenty of the new patrolmen will be assigned to twelve Manhattan projects, nineteen to nine projects in Brooklyn, four to three Queens projects and three to four projects in the Bronx.

JAIL THREATENED FOR RENTAL BIAS

City Body to Seek Maximum Penalty if New Law Is Violated Deliberately

The maximum penalty — a year in jail — will be asked for landlords who deliberately violate the city's new ban on racial discrimination in private rental housing.

The intention was announced yesterday by Dr. Alfred J. Marrow, chairman of the city Commission on Inter-Group Relations. The Sharkey-Brown-Isaacs Law, which becomes effective tomorrow, provides that the commission is first to investigate complaints and attempt conciliations.

If necessary, a case will then go to a three-member panel drawn from a review board of twelve members to be appointed by the Mayor. The State Supreme Court will be asked for an injunction.

Interviewed on the "Citizens Union Searchlight" program on WRCA-TV, Dr. Marrow said "we're depending on voluntary compliance to a much greater extent than policing." But he said that "generally, acceptance of the law will depend on how sincere we are."

"We're going to ask for the maximum of penalty where the violation is clearly deliberate," he said.

Civil Actions Viewed

H also reported that there was some legal opinion that an aggrieved would-be tenant might have grounds for a civil suit against a landlord.

The commission plans this week to increase its present staff of twenty to about fifty or fifty-five persons, with the aid of a new $200,000 city appropriation, it was reported.

Dr. Frank S. Horne, the commission's executive director, expressed the hope that the new law might cause a "wider distribution of the minorities." He said on the WNYC radio program "Campus Press Conference" that this might discourage a "flight to the suburbs."

A state ban on discrimination in housing receiving public assistance has been in effect since 1950, supplemented by later city and state legislation.

Dr. Horne said regualtions on procedures for complaints and hearings would soon be available in printed form.

The new city law covers about 1,700,000 units in private dwellings that house three or more families and one and two-family dwellings in developments of ten or more units.

Middle Income' Snags Housing; Is It $4,000 or $20,000 a Year?

By CHARLES GRUTZNER

The middle-income family has become the most-talked-about group in housing circles, but there is no general agreement on what middle income is.

Legislators, housing experts, private builders, city planners and just about everyone else keep insisting that what America—and especially Manhattan—needs is much more middle-income housing. They regret, in speeches and writing, the migration to the suburbs of middle-income families and seek ways of luring them back across the city line.

But the family that fits one lawmaker's definition of middle income is viewed by some housing experts as low income. The family described by a private builder as middle income is marked off by a public housing official as high income.

A sampling has been made by The New York Times of the opinions of public officials and others concerned with the housing problem. The result is an amorphous sprawl that begins, according to some of the definitions, with an annual family income of $4,000 and reaches, in one developer's view, to $20,000 a year. The outer limits contract and swell with the individual views.

An effort was made in this year's state legislative session to prohibit the construction of any more middle-income housing by the New York City Housing Authority. The proposed ban, withdrawn by its Republican sponsors in a compromise on reorganization of the Housing Authority, failed to define middle-income housing.

Similarly the sponsors of low-interest state and city loans, long-term amortization and tax abatement for private developers of limited-profit and cooperative housing did not write any definition of middle income into their successful bipartisan measure.

In New Jersey the State Legislature has up for final action a measure to permit local authorities to build middle-income housing. Public housing in New Jersey has been restricted up to now to low-income families. The permissive legislation offers no dollar definition of middle income—it leaves that to the local housing authorities.

Philip J. Cruise, chairman of the New York City Housing Authority, said his idea of a middle-income family was one whose total annual income was between $5,000 and $10,000. It would vary with the size of the family and would include the earnings of more than one member in some family units.

City Limits Raised

The city raised income and rental limits recently in its no-cash-subsidy public housing program. These projects receive no public assistance beyond tax abatement. The newest one, which will accept its first tenants this spring, will have average monthly rentals of $23.56 a room. It will have maximum income limits for admission up to $7,490 a year for families of five or more persons.

Mr. Cruise expressed the view that public housing should not accept the upper half of the middle-income group—within his definition—if private builders were able to put up housing with the new state aids and Federal mortgage insurance to rent at $25 to $30 a room. He said families with incomes above $7,500 should not be taken into public housing if private builders filled the gap at that economic level.

Joseph P. McMurray, State Housing Commissioner, said middle-income families — in terms of housing need—were those with incomes from $4,500 a year for a childless family to about $10,000 for a large family. Outside Manhattan, he said, the top limit might be $1,000 to $1,500 less.

Commissioner McMurray pointed out that federally subsidized housing now provided low-rent apartments for families with incomes up to $4,700. He said the state's low-rent projects had an income limit for admission up to $5,900 for large families.

Also Against Subsidy

Mr. McMurray shared the opinion of Mr. Cruise that public subsidy should not be given at this time to housing for families above the $7,500-income level.

At present construction costs, said Mr. McMurray, completely unsubsidized private housing in Manhattan requires rents of at least $40 to $45 a room. With the markdown in land costs that is provided in Title I of the Federal Housing Act of 1949 and Federal mortgage insurance, rents could be brought down to $30 to $32 a room. But an average family with an income up to $7,500 should pay no more than $25 a room, according to Mr. McMurray.

For those families with incomes of $7,500 to $10,000 a year, Mr. McMurray suggested a tax abatement of less than the 40 per cent the city has granted to limited-dividend companies, along with low-interest loans. This plan, he said, would provide housing for the upper-middle-income families at various rent levels up to those of "completely unsubsidized housing."

Herman D. Hillman, regional director of the Public Housing Administration, said his agency was concerned only with housing for low-income families. Applying the Federal formula for low-income public housing, this would put the dividing line between low and middle income in New York City at $4,560 for a childless couple, with a graduated rise to $7,440 for a family large enough to require four bedrooms. Anything below these figures the P. H. A. regards as low income in this city.

The Federal Government will subsidize low-rent housing up to a point where at least a 20 per cent gap exists between the top limit for income eligibility and the family income that would be needed to pay the lowest rents for private housing built without subsidy. Mr. Hillman said the New York City Housing Authority had failed to build Federally aided public housing up to the allowable 20 per cent gap, thereby falling short of serving adequately the upper range of this city's low-income group.

Robert C. Weaver, State Rent Administrator, said middle income, as a term used in housing, meant something quite different from what the words meant when applied to unrelated national statistics. On the basis of 1954-56 figures, one-third of all nonfarm families in the United States had annual incomes of less than $3,000; another third had from $3,000 to $5,500, and one-third had incomes of more than $5,500.

"Obviously," declared Mr. Weaver, "it would not be meaningful to define middle income in relation to housing as the group with incomes between $3,000 and $5,500."

On the basis of rents for private housing in this city and the availability of the so-called "aids to middle-income housing," Mr. Weaver defined middle income as between $4,500 and $7,000 for a childless couple and up to a range of $5,500 to $9,000 for a larger family.

Some Aid Approved

State Senator MacNeil Mitchell, Republican of Manhattan, and Assemblyman Alfred A. Lama, Democrat of Brooklyn, have sponsored successful measures making various forms of state and city aid—short of cash subsidy—available to private developers of middle-income housing. Senator Mitchell, who has not spelled out middle income in terms of dollars, said the Joint Legislative Committee on Housing, of which he is chairman, would make a study this year of income limitations.

The Joint Legislative Committee's 1956-57 report said private housing could be built here to rent from $19 to $23 a room if the Mitchell-Lama aids were used. With a smaller amount of tax exemption, such housing could rent for $25 a room. This, according to one of Senator Mitchell's aides, would put middle income between $4,500 and $8,000 for an average family, with a higher limit for large families. He said this would include most policemen, firemen, other civil servants, skilled craftsmen, white-collar workers and retired professionals.

Assemblyman Lama said an average middle-income family was one that could afford a monthly rent of $25 a room. For families with two or more children, this might require an income up to $10,000, and for smaller families, up to $7,500, he said.

Housing and living costs in Manhattan are such that a family with three children is in the middle-income group until the income goes above $20,000, according to Paul Tishman, who is building the Washington Square Village apartments.

"An income of $20,000 a year will buy about as much today as $10,000 did ten years ago," declared Mr. Tishman. "In another ten years we may have to consider the family with up to $30,000 as a high middle-income family."

Mr. Tishman sees a broad range of middle income in three divisions: $5,000 to $7,500 as low middle, $7,500 to $12,000 as middle middle, and $12,000 to $20,000 as high middle.

Practically all new private housing built in Manhattan without tax abatement rents at $50 or more a room, except in Harlem, where a limited amount is available at $42 to $45 a room. Thus, said Mr. Tishman, a family requiring five and one-half rooms in Manhattan would need an income of $16,500 to $23,000—depending on whether it spent one-fifth or one-seventh of its income for rent—to justify living in new, unaided, private housing.

In Harlem and the boroughs beyond Manhattan, the top limit for the middle-income group might be $2,500 less, Mr. Tishman said.

A spokesman for Webb & Knapp, Inc., developer of the housing projects at Lincoln Square, Kips Bay, West Park and other Title I sites here and in other cities, said rents for middle-income housing in one city would be regarded luxury rents in another.

Sets $12,000 Ceiling

In New York, he said, middle-income new housing rented at $30 to $45 a room. His estimate of what constituted middle income was $5,000 to $10,000 for a childless couple and $6,000 to $12,000 for families with children.

Some apartments in Washington Square Village will rent within the upper range of what Mr. Tishman described as middle-income housing. But many others in the 2,004-unit Title I redevelopment will bring monthly rentals of $70 and more a room. In some of the Webb & Knapp urban renewal housing, rents will be in excess of $60 a room.

There has been some criticism of Title I housing that is clearly beyond the rental scale for middle-income families. Title I permits cities to acquire blighted areas and resell the properties at big discounts to private developers. The Federal Government makes good two-thirds the price difference and the city one-third.

The private developers of Title I rental housing, who pay full city taxes, contend that there is no requirement that they limit their enterprise to middle-income housing. The law contains no such provision.

Robert Moses, chairman of the Committee on Slum Clearance, has defended vigorously this stand by the Title I builders. Mr. Moses has repeated, with increasing heat, his contention that the Federal and city contributions to the land resale are investments in slum clearance and in no sense a subsidy to the redeveloper, who is restricted in the way he may use the land.

"Title I redevelopers pay a fair reuse price for the blighted area," said Mr. Moses. "We expect them to rebuild on the site just as fine as they can—something that will be a credit to New York—and to charge what the traffic will bear. Too many critics try to confuse Title I with public housing or publicly aided middle-income housing."

Mr. Moses said Title I redevelopers were building middle-income housing in those neighborhoods where it seemed most practical and were building more expensive apartments where the potentialites of the locale warranted such construction.

Mr. Moses views the middle-income range as that which enables a family to pay monthly rents of $20 to $30 a room. Declaring that the need for this kind of housing was more acute now than for dwellings "for the lowest or highest rental families," Mr. Moses said unaided private construction could not produce new housing in central areas of the city at rents less than $38 or $40 a room.

NON-HOUSING GETS MORE SLUM FUNDS

Times Herald
New York
Sat. 9-19-58

Fried Says U. S. Will Press for Rise in Business and Recreation Projects

FUTURE IS STRESSED

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Officials of Communities in Northeast Urged to Curb Lure to Developers

By CHARLES GRUTZNER

The Federal Government intends to channel an increasing share of its slum clearance funds toward commercial, industrial, recreational and other non-housing redevelopment of blighted urban areas.

This was disclosed here yesterday by Walter S. Fried, regional administrator of the Housing and Home Finance Agency. He addressed 325 public officials of seventy-one cities and villages in seven northeastern states where urban renewal projects are under way or in planning.

"A city is a living organism," Mr. Fried said. "It must grow in all directions. You cannot place too much emphasis on one factor—or instance, housing. You would get a city with beautiful homes, but no way to get there and no jobs."

Mr. Fried, whose office passes on Federal grants and redevelopment plans for all Title I projects in New York and New England, has been encouraging communities to use slum clearance for rehabilitation of obsolete business centers, municipal parking lots and other purposes as well as to provide new housing.

Long Planning Stressed

He said yesterday that the concept for eligibility for Federal grants should be restricted to projects "which plan many years ahead, not those that merely halt urban deterioration by bits and patches or those that may become the slums of tomorrow."

At the same time, Mr. Fried made it clear that the Government expected the urban renewal program to produce a substantial amount of new housing. He said that his agency would continue to insist that all families dislocated by slum clearance be rehoused in adequate, sanitary quarters at rents they could afford.

One of the frequent criticisms of Title I projects has been that rents in new housing are far above what displaced tenants can afford. In this city tenement flats renting for $30 to $50 a month have been demolished to make way for apartments renting from $200 to $400 a month.

Mr. Fried called for more low-cost public housing and middle-income housing built privately with such public aids as low-interest loans and partial tax exemption.

Conference Is Ended

The two-day conference in the Commodore Hotel ended yesterday. Charles J. Horan, regional director of urban renewal, conducted several workshop sessions at which local officials discussed redevelopment problems.

A question widely discussed was how far local slum clearance authorities should go in making commitments to a prospective developer before the site resale contract was signed.

Some local officials said many redevelopers were unwilling to make costly preliminary plans and estimates if there were a likelihood the site might go to someone else. For this reason they preferred negotiated sales to public auctions.

Mr. Fried suggested that cities seek to interest prospective sponsors—several wherever possible—in their projects at the earliest stage of discussion of future development. He warned that the effort to lure redevelopers should not be carried to the extent of offering an unduly large writedown in the land resale price.

BIAS IS DECLARED CAUSE OF POVERTY

Herald Tribune
New York
3-13-58

Special to The New York Times.

ALBANY, March 12—Speakers at a conference on discrimination and low incomes agreed today that the former was a major factor in causing the latter.

Governor Harriman, who called the conference, urged business and labor to join in a campaign against bias and poverty "in their own self-interest." The two evils artificially limit the labor force, he said, and result in higher taxes to support the low-income group.

Charles Abrams, chairman of the State Commission against Discrimination, cited statistics indicatng that relef, poverty and lack of education were highest among Negroes and Puerto Ricans.

He urged that housing programs 'be re-examined to emphasize an increase in the supply rather than a clearance of th eonly shelter minorities can afford."

Mr. Isador Lubin, State Industrial Commissioner and chairman of the interdepartmental committee on low incomes, warned that "unless something more is done for the youngsters of families receiving aid to dependent children, these children may continue in low-income status for the rest of their lives."

"One of our primary concerns must be to see to it that these children do not drop out of school for economic reasonst if they have the abilities to profit by additional schooling," he added.

IMPACT OF SLUMP ON FAMILY CITED

Recession Is Taking Its Toll Here in Human Suffering, Agency Head Contends

468

By EMMA HARRISON

The role of the Community Service Society in recession problems was described yesterday by J. Richardson Dilworth, president, at the spring meeting of the society at the Commodore Hotel.

The emotional impact of unemployment and growing economic uncertainty not only is increasing referrals to the agency, but also is bringing many persons unannounced to the agency's door, he said. He termed the situation a psychological emergency that the agency was working hard to stem.

Mr. Dilworth recalled the scars caused by the depression of the Thirties and declared that social agencies had no time to lose in meeting this present "psychological recession."

He said the agency's rosters showed the following results of the recession:

¶Men who formerly depended upon overtime to meet family needs find overtime is becoming a rarity. The regular hours of many workers have been cut.

¶Marginal workers, including older people and minority groups, are among the first to lose their jobs. One of the hardest hit groups are refugees from behind the Iron Curtain.

¶Wives who were supplementing their husband's income with part-time employment are finding such jobs hard to get.

¶Adolescents, a matter of great concern for social agencies, will not find it easy to obtain summer jobs.

Living Standards Cut

Mr. Dilworth said such developments had brought a decline in the living standards of modest-income families and increasing marital conflict arising from economic strain.

When clients appear at the receptionist's desk "at the end of their rope economically and emotionally," Mr. Dilworth said, the society must refer them to the Welfare Department. The family agency must then take on the other important problems involved in this situation, he added.

These problems include the preparation of men for the necessity of taking a lesser job and the disappointment involved in being turned down repeatedly in his job search. He said that in many cases the feeling against seeking public assistance had been so strong that counselors had had to help families overcome their dread of going to the Department of Welfare.

"We are going to require more, not less service," Mr. Dilworth declared. "Caseworkers must be kept on the job if we are to hold families together and save the irreparable damage that can come to people with economic hardship."

6,000 TO STUDY PERILS FACING U. S. FAMILIES

Chicago Tribune

Breakdown of American family life will hold the major emphasis when 6,000 professional and vulnteer workers from private and public welfare agencies meet here next month for the 85th annual forum of the National Conference on Social Welfare.

"This breakdwn is one of the major national problems," Dr. Eveline M. Burns, president of the conference, told reporters yesterday at a meeting of the conference executive committee in the Sherman hotel.

Dr. Burns, professor at the New York school of social work, Columbia university, observed that the conference is meeting in the home of nationally known social workers who centered around the late Jane Addams and Hull house.

General Sessions Set

General conference sessions will be held Sunday evening, May 11, all day Monday and Wednesday, May 12 and 14, and Friday morning, May 16, in the Civic Opera house. Associate groups will hold 300 other meetings beginning May 8 and thruout the conference week in the Sherman, Morri-

Among the speakers on American family life will be Robert H. McRae, executive director of the Welfare Council of Metropolitan Chicago, and Joseph H. Reid. executive director of the Child Welfare League of America.

Will Debate Change

Panelists will also debate the problem of whether the federal government should hand welfare work back to the states, along with a shift in the tax basis to finance such a change.

Among other subjects set for discussion are "dropouts" from high school; the effect of economic policies on employment; welfare experience with Hungarian refugees; integration and the impact of migration from the south; planned parenthood; and needs of the ever growing population of older people.

McRae will also be introduced as the 1959 conference president.

Planning Negro Subdivision In Greensboro, N. C.

GREENSBORO, N.C. (ANP) — Plans for a new $4,000,000 Negro subdivision and a $750,000 shopping center were announced here.

Kirkman and Koury Inc. announced plans for the projects which will be located in South Greensboro.

Council Gets Housing Bill

BY ART SEARS, JR.

Legislation designed to throttle "unscrupulous" real estate interests and contractors who illegally convert dwelling units, was introduced in City Council Monday night, by Councilman Dee A. Jackson, (D-24), and Councilman Mercedes Cotner (D-2).

"This matter of overcrowding in dwellings is a serious problem in our Ward," Jackson told the Call and Post.

"I feel that this one condition is the basis for a lot of the ills in our Ward and should be quickly eliminated."

Jackson explained that in the next 10 years, the Urban Renewal and Development program will cost an estimated 10 million dollars.

"In our area, unscrupulous real estate interests have been purchasing - especially apartment buildings - and illegally converting these dwellings until they are overcrowded."

The Councilman said the cost of enforcing such legislation compared to the 10 million dollar figure for house improvement - "would be very small. This problem of overcrowding has got to be stopped somewhere," he declared.

Jackson said overcrowding was not a problem confined only to his ward but that similar problems existed throughout the city.

"I have talked with people representing most of the committees through which the legislation must pass and they all seem to be highly in favor of it," Jackson said.

AMONG THE committees which must consider the legislation before it reaches Council are: the Department of Building Standards, Urban Renewal, Safety, Legislation, and the Law Department.

If the legislation becomes law, "profiteering" property owners would be prevented from dividing homes and apartments without city permits.

THE ORDINANCE would fine guilty owners 20 percent of their gross rents collected in the previous year and provide fines of $100 to $1,000 and 90-day jail sentences for guilty contractors.

In addition, Jackson said, the property owner would have to reconvert the portion of his property which he illegally changed.

"I am extremely optimistic about this legislation getting out of committee favorably," Jackson told the Call and Post.

Mrs. Cotner, who is chairman of the Urban Renewal Committee, is throwing all of her weight and influence behind Jacksons efforts as co-sponsor of the legislation.

SLUM FIGHT IS TIED TO RACIAL TENSION

Charles Taft Tells Baptists Relocation of Minorities Causes Urban Strife

By GEORGE DUGAN

Special to The New York Times.

CINCINNATI, June 17 — Charles P. Taft, a prominent layman in the Protestant Episcopal Church, told the American Baptist Convention here today that urban renewal projects and interstate highway programs in northern cities were "stirring up the worst race feeling outside the South."

Yet the churches, he charged, are making little effort to halt racial animosities engendered when minorities are moved about to make way for urban progress.

Essential as renewal and highway projects are in destroying slums, he said, there can be no denying the fact the ensuing relocation of minority groups has "taxed our ability to hold our towns together."

Mr. Taft is a former Mayor of Cincinnati. The late Senator Robert A. Taft was his brother.

Cites Realty Maneuvers

Mr. Taft warned the delegates that the Christian Church had a vital stake in achieving community peace and harmony when Puerto Ricans, Negroes or Spanish-Americans moved into newer and better neighborhoods.

He singled out real estate operators who "break streets" for a Negro family and then by organized methods produce panic among near-by home owners as the "first enemies" of a community. Many of these businessmen, he pointed out, are ardent churchgoers.

Second on his list, he said, were churchgoing small-time politicians who utilized race prejudice to defeat Negro candidates, ignoring Christian principles.

Mr. Taft spoke on the final day of the annual meeting of the Baptist body at the Cincinnati Garden.

Opposes 'Right-to-Work'

He was equally blunt in voicing opposition to the so-called "right-to-work" laws.

Explaining his stand, he said that the Taft-Hartley Act of 1947 authorized a union that had been designated by a majority of the employes in a bargaining unit to negotiate, if it could, a contract with the employer that required every employe to join the union within thirty days, and to continue as a member.

But if thereafter the union expelled any employe, he said, or if he resigned from the union, he could not be dismissed by the employer if he continued to pay dues.

The Taft-Hartley Act, however, permits a state to enact laws making such a contract illegal, he added. These are the so-called "right-to-work" laws.

The intent of the "right-to-work" acts is clearly anti-union, Mr. Taft declared, "as anyone knows who has talked to the overwhelming majority of those who favor them."

"I am interested in the freedom of the individual worker," he said, "but I see every reason why he should pay something for the representation he receives when the union lawfully designated vy vote of the workers bargains for him. I see no excuse for the 'free rider'."

This morning, Mrs. Maurice B. Hodge of Portland, Ore., was elected president of the American Baptist Convention. She succeeds the Rev. Dr. Clarence W. Cranford of Washington.

Need for Negro Housing in Tulsa is Stressed by Officials

Dr. George W. Snowden, Washington, minority group hpusing adviser for the Federal Housing Administration, said here last week that now is an opportune time for Tulsa to stress minority housing.

The advisor addressed a group of mortgage bankers, builders, and Negro leaders at a meeting at the Pebeleo building sponsored by the Tulsa FHA office. He made similar points at a meeting sponsored by the Tulsa Urban League.

"Homes costing up to $13,500 require very little down payment ($350 for $13,500)" Dr Snowden said. "If there is no local market for mortgages the Federal National mortgage corporation has the money to finance them," he explained.

Market for 200 Homes

Accompanying Dr. Snowden here was William F. McKinney, St. Louis, regional FHA minority adviser.

There is a market for at least 200 new homes for Negro families here, McKinney contended. He said one hundred would be $13 500 and up, and the remainder from $8,000 to $13,500.

Dr. Snowden said national FHA officials have been impressed with Tulsa's past efforts in the minority housing field. He said some past mistakes have been corrected, and that the picture here is a sound one.

Loans Now Popular

It only has been in the last 10 years that minority housing has entered the "mainstream" of the American building picture, he related. However during this time, he said these FHA loans have become increasingly popular with national lending institutions.

Nothing is more important to the minorities than good housing. A good home is the starting place," he declared.

OC Bright Spot

According to McKinney, Oklahoma City has been one of the southwest's bright spots for Negro housing.

Tulsa is now getting to the place where it can challenge Oklahoma City for that honor," he said.

McKinney said FHA loans to Negroes here are now on a sound basis. He added that five years ago, the agency was having one foreclosure a month here but today foreclosures are almost non-existent.

Three teen-age members of the Leadership Club of the Wharton Center, 1704 N. 22d st., present their plan for improvement of their neighborhood to Mayor Richardson Dilworth at a Town Meeting last night at Temple University. They are (left to right) Phyllis Lee, Booker Farrier and Thomas Watson.

HOUSING MIXER SCORES OFFICIAL

PITTSBURGH (AP) — A leader of an integrated housing movement in New York state said that "Southern bigotry will derive increasing comfort and support" from a statement he attributed to Albert M. Cole, administrator of the Federal Housing and Home Finance Agency.

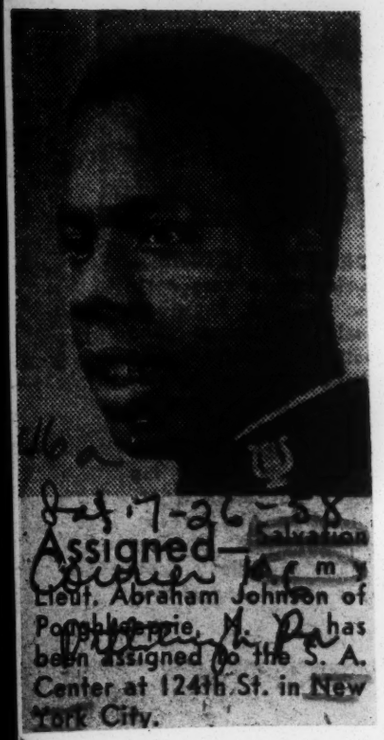
Charles Abrams, chairman of the New York state commission against discrimination, told the 12th annual conference of the National Association of Intergroup Relations Officials (NAIRO):

"Mr. Cole in San Francisco (speaking before the National Association of Real Estate Boards) said the function of the FHA is not to encourage integrated neighborhoods but to respect local customs and local laws."

Abrams added: "Federal aid, he feels, should be and is being used directly to encourage segregated neighborhoods where this happens to be the custom. Thus the federal government espouses equal opportunity for Negroes in principle, while denying it in practice."

Abrams suggested that Cole be called before the federal civil rights commission to explain his views and that the commission make recommendations on them to the US attorney general and President Eisenhower.

"Housing segregation leads to school segregation," Abrams said, "and discrimination in housing takes its toll in frustrating equal opportunity to employment, to education and to other aspects of life."



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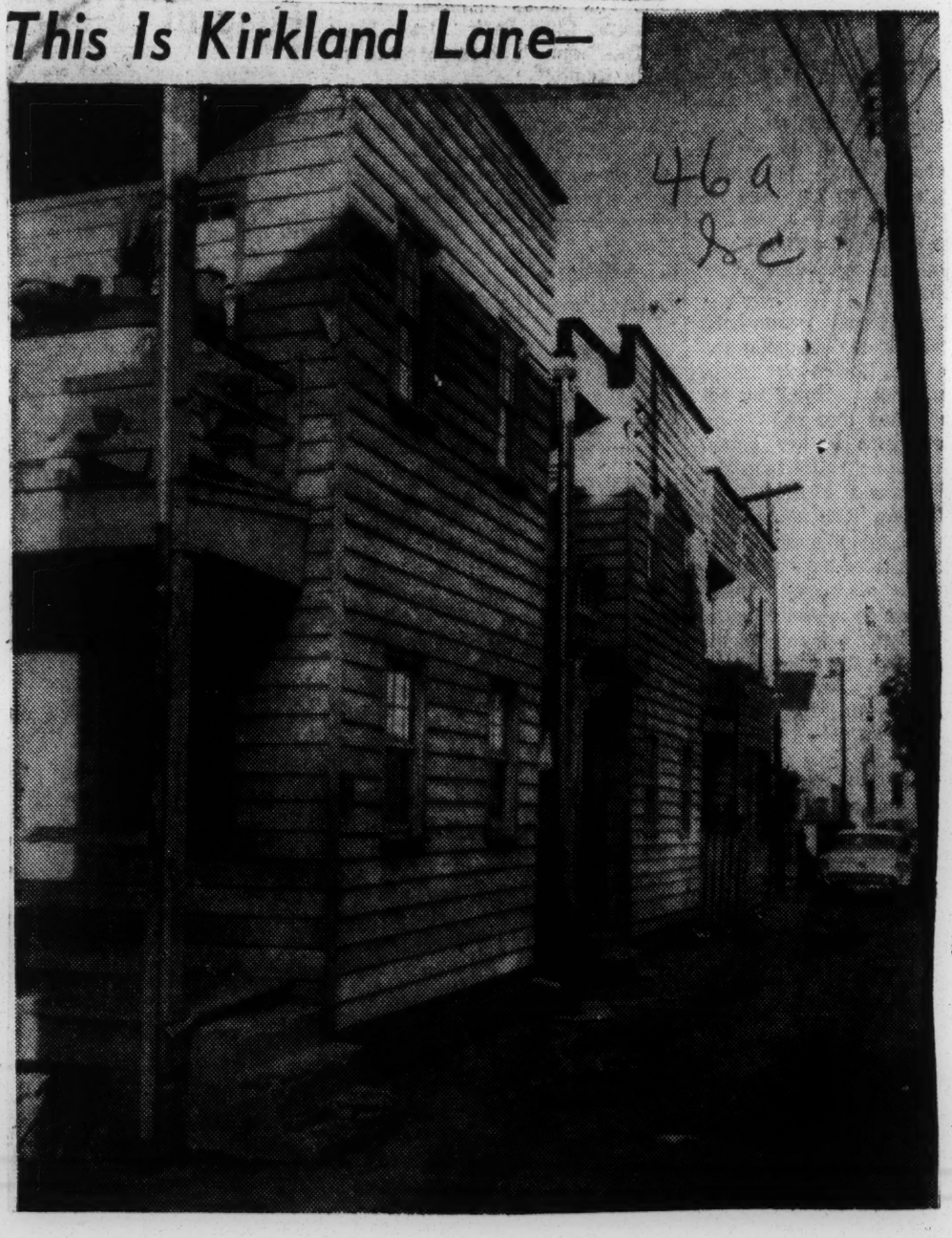
Assigned—Salvation Army Center

Lieut. Abraham Johnson of Pomeroy, Pa. has been assigned to the S. A. Center at 124th St. in New York City.

Culture For Crime And Disease

This Is Kirkland Lane—



News and Courier Staff Writer

A heavy - set dog, jet black from the bristling hair on his back down to his shanks, lifted his tan-colored paws gingerly as he threaded his way between deep puddles of dirty water in Kirkland Lane yesterday. He limped slightly — apparently from an injured shoulder — as he emerged from the shadows of the narrow lane into the bright sunlight of Beaufain Street.

The dog lay down on the sidewalk and stretched himself in the warm, clean, sunshine. A cold north wind blew down the alley, wafting a composite smell of stagnant water, wet wash, stale food, garbage, wood smoke and some even more objectionable odors.

Within that pot-pourri of scents was Kirkland Lane — one of Charleston's more widely publicized slums.

Odors are not the only problems emanating from Kirkland Lane, however. In December, 1956, an outbreak of tuberculosis was discovered by the Charleston County Health Department. The disease hit 13 Lane residents in less than a year. Three of them died.

Just last week a different disease poured out of the teeming Negro slum, spilling over into Wentworth Street as a gang of Negro youths attacked two white men passing by.

This phase of juvenile delinquency drew swift police action as patrols were set up in the vicinity but — so far — nothing has been done to remove the factors creating Kirkland Lane's problems.

Kirkland Lane is a slum, but it is only one of many such slums be-fouling the city's surface, creating most of its crime and nearly all of its misery. In fact, Kirkland Lane isn't even the worst slum in the city.

Its recent bid for notoriety, however, has drawn the eye of the public and officialdom on the alley.

Kirkland Lane yesterday revealed nearly as many puddles in the unpaved dirt alley as there are inhabitants in the tenements which hem it in. During heavy rains the alley is ankle deep in water.

The one respectable looking residence on the lane is No. 15, a multiple unit apartment building, which is neatly painted and apparently well maintained.

Otherwise, the houses are pretty much alike, varying only in the degree of delapidation. Kirkland Lane, which runs south from Wentworth Street to Beaufain, actually has a small lane, or court, off of it. This merely adds to the human congestion in the area.

Kirkland Lane is a slum in the center of an otherwise fairly well-kept neighborhood. Wentworth Street in that area is partially commercial in nature but with a number of attractive white residences.

Pitt Street, to the west, has a row of huge old houses in poor to fair state of upkeep, but occupied by whites. Coming Street, to the east of the Lane, is inhabited by whites on its west side (nearest the alley) while the east side of Coming is predominately Negro in the block south of Wentworth. Beaufain Street, at the alley's southern end, has some Negro residents on its northern side but the area south of Beaufain is occupied by the sprawling Mills Manor housing project for whites which, itself, is just north of the city's best residential areas.

While Kirkland Lane's occupants are all Negro, only three of its houses are owned by Negroes.

One of these, No. 15, is owned by the estate of George H. Washington. His widow maintains the neatly painted two-story home in immaculate condition. She lives in the main house, renting out two apartments and a smaller house in the rear of the property which is neatly fenced.

The Washington property stands out strikingly against the drabness of the other Kirkland Lane dwellings. It is an example of what other landlords could do.

The Lane's rental units are mainly two - story, multiple - unit tenements. Most of the apartments contain two or three rooms. Most of the Negro families have large numbers of children. One resident of the Lane said some families consisting of adults and six and seven children live in two rooms. Toilets are outside units and most houses have a single water tap in the yard to serve all inhabitants.

When the toilets get stopped up and overflow, Kirkland Lane's normal aroma takes on new horizons. If the overflow occurs in wet weather, the Lane becomes even more dangerous and disagreeable to navigate.

One elderly resident, queried as to the possibilities of a juvenile gang operating out of the alley, waxed wrathful.

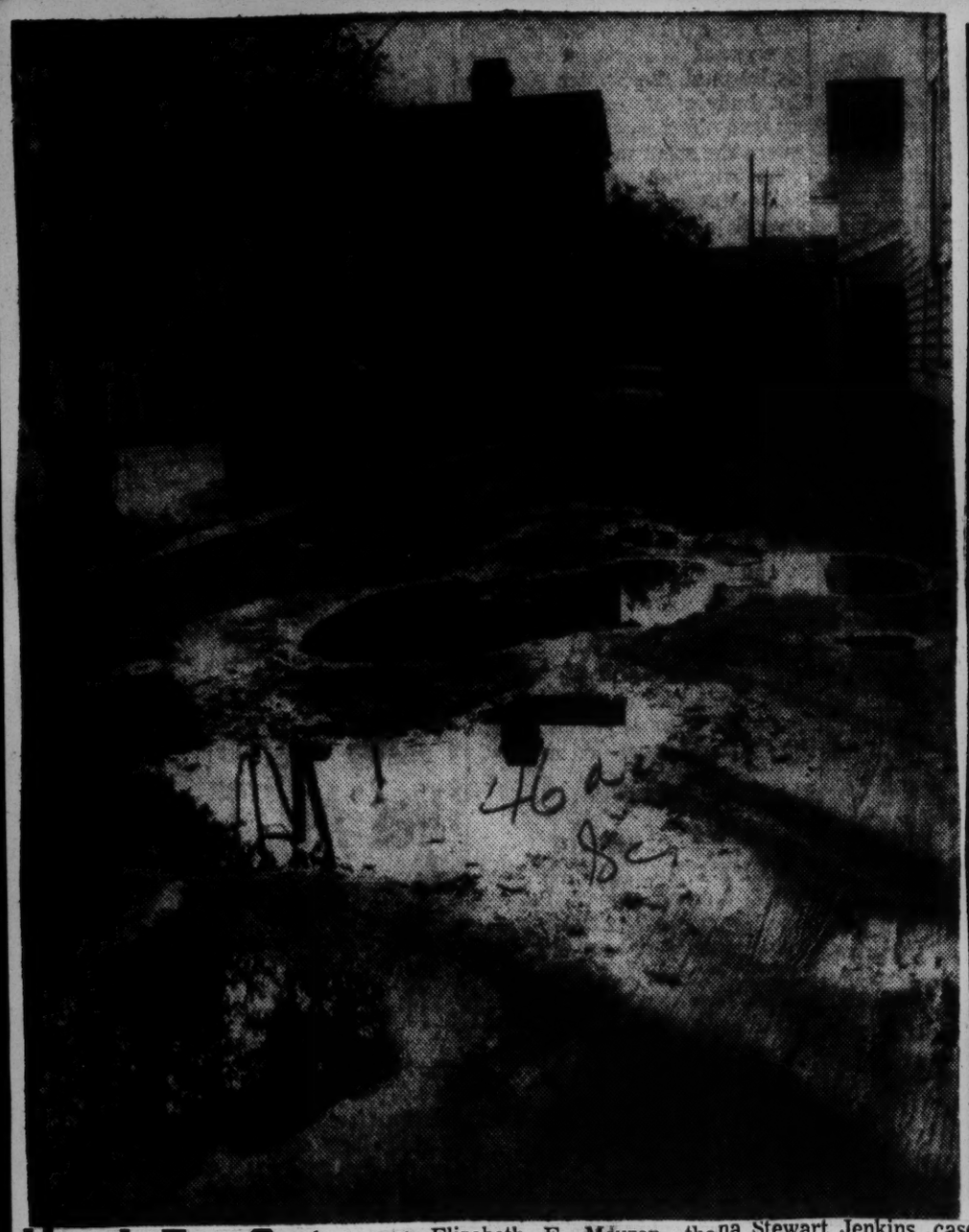
"They operate all right. They hang out at that joint (a small store) and they stay up all hours, cursing and carrying on. They ain't got any respect for no one—no matter how old they are. I stay inside at night," she said.

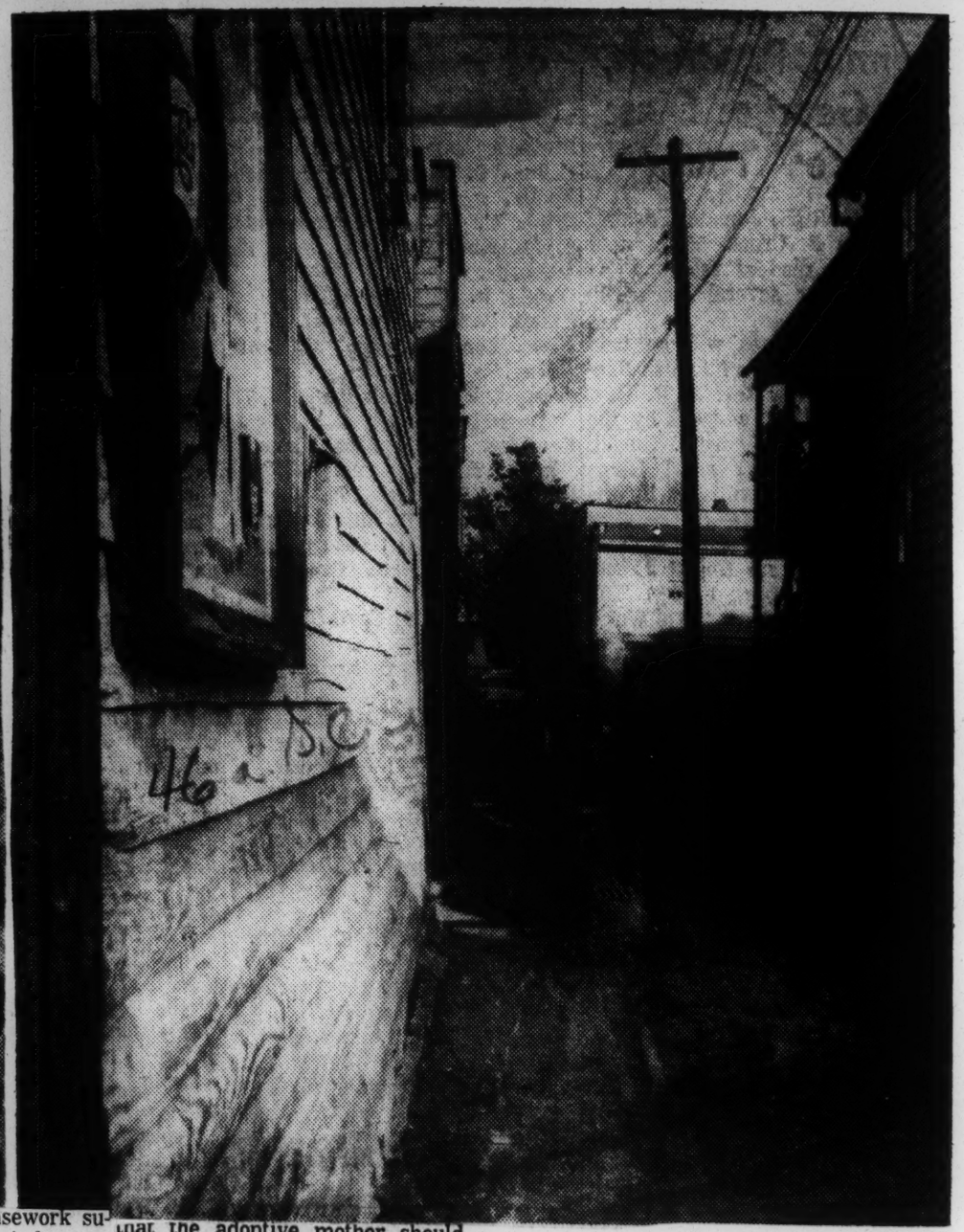
She pointed out that Kirkland Lane's children have no playground near enough for the younger ones to go to unescorted. The nearest Negro playground is at the east end of Calhoun Street and on Cannon Street.

"This Lane is where they play. Sometimes they used to go into a vacant lot over on Pitt Street but they got chased off of that. Some of the parents aren't much better than these young bucks. They don't do much to keep their kids under control," she stated.

Surface observations indicate the Lane needs several things immediately. These include: paving, painting of houses, installation of sanitary plumbing in all units, control of the number of individuals permitted to live in the units, and some sort of community program to work with the young people.

That black mongrel dog could find his place in the sun by simply walking down to Beaufain Street. For Kirkland Lane's human inhabitants, the problem is far more complicated.





Hard To Get Negro Child In Foster Home

Children's Bureau Fells Many People Ignorant Of Agency

COLUMBIA (AP) — The South Carolina Children's Bureau has a problem: how to find foster homes for the Negro children it has up for adoption?

"The children's bureau tries to bring about a happy family situation for all children in its care," says Elizabeth E. Mouzon, the agency's supervisor, but "this is sometimes hard to accomplish for the Negro child."

She feels that there are many "good Negro couples who cannot have children of their own and would like to have a child or children of their own by adoption" but don't know about the bureau.

"We want to build up a backlog of prospective adoptive parents," Miss Mouzon says, "so we can place children in foster homes as soon as possible."

She said that white babies are taken into adoptive homes as soon as they are legally free — usually when they are about six weeks to two months old — because we normally have a home waiting.

"We have to keep Negro children in many instances until they are six or eight months old with the result that they are kept waiting for suitable homes for two or three months," says Miss Joanna Stewart Jenkins, casework supervisor for the children's bureau.

The bureau — a state-supported institution — screens prospective foster parents thoroughly "in order to give the child the kind of home that will best fit his or her needs."

Applications are given more consideration when they come couples who have been married three or more years.

The bureau feels that this is a minimum period on which to evaluate "the stability and permanence of marriage and the couple's life experience together as a family."

The bureau only places with couples living in South Carolina "with the intent of permanent residence" and who have lived in the state at least one year.

The adoptive couples are also expected to be in sound financial condition, in good health and active members of a church.

Further, the bureau expects that the adoptive mother should stay in the home with the foster child and not be employed outside.

As much as possible the bureau tries to match the traits and abilities of the natural parents with those of the adoptive parents.

May 19-20 at SRI—

Future of South to be explored

What do national business concerns think about the surging South?

Do they believe it will grow into a stronger market? Are they considering locations in the South?

The answers which will have an important bearing on the South's future will be explored at a conference May 19-20 at Southern Research Institute.

Well-known national and Southern business, education and industry leaders will discuss the region's economic future at the conference on "50 Million Consumers."

The theme is based on anticipated growth of the South from the present 35 million residents to 50 million within 25 years.

SRI Chairman Thomas W. Martin said Saturday nearly 300 leaders from various aspects of life have registered from the South and other sections of the nation.

Conference headquarters will be at the Tutwiler Hotel.

Future important-58

MARTIN SAID that the research is important news now, but we know it will eventually be.

"What is really important for us in the South is to know whether this region's share of the nation's prosperity will increase over the long term—this is the question that will affect our income, mine and our offspring.

"The South obviously cannot assume its proper position in the nation until there is greater security and opportunity for the people in the region, he said.

Explaining various aspects of the future will be such national figures as President George Champion of the Chase Manhattan Bank in New York. He is chairman of various companies and a trustee of Tuskegee Institute.

Also on the list is Charles B. Shaffer, senior partner of the investment banking firm of Lehman Brothers, Barney & Co. of New York. He is a West Point graduate who served in the Navy in World War II.

Southern viewpoint

AMONG THOSE presenting facts from the Southern viewpoint, will be President Harllee Branch Jr. of The Southern Co., Atlanta, Ga.; John A. Sibley, chairman of the board of the Trust Co. of Georgia, and Philip W. Moore, president of the First Research Corp. of Miami, Fla. A leading business magazine recently said of Moore that he "is fast becoming a prime mover in the industrial South."

Before forming his own companies, he was associated with several national investment and management companies.

Fifteen speakers will appear on the day's program. Philip D. Reed, chairman of the board of General Electric, and J. K. Hodnette, Alabama-born vice president of Westinghouse Electric Corp.; Gov. Luther Hodges of North Carolina, and Gen. J. B. Medaris, commanding general of the Army Ballistic Missiles Agency, will be among the speakers.

Survey Shows Dixie Prospers

Delta Air Lines Encouraged By Study—Recession 'Gold-Plated'

By The Associated Press

ATLANTA, May 25.—Business in Dixie is apparently sailing along at a merry clip in contrast to most of the nation which is feeling the pinch of an economic slump.

In fact, business is so good in the South, said Delta Air Lines Sunday, that people in Dallas, Texas, call it the "gold-plated recession."

Advertising For South

Delta said it is so encouraged by results of an economic survey it conducted in cities of the South and Southwest that it is advertising the entire region as building, extending, diversifying.

The airline plans advertisements to that effect Monday in the Wall Street Journal and the New York Times.

Delta President C. E. Woolman said the company hopes in this way to contribute to restoring confidence "in the vigor of American economy."

Farm receipts and home applications to the Federal Housing Administration were two of the strong points reported in the Southwest. This was balanced by a tighter oil production which researchers reported as being held down by the control offices to reduce oversupplies and prevent price drops.

Industrywise, the airline reported hundreds of new plants springing up along the Mississippi Coast and the Mississippi River in Louisiana.

In the Southwest, the company said employment is above the national level, borrowing is ahead of a year ago and retail sales compared favorably with 1957 until March when more than a seasonal increase took place.

Louisiana Jobs Rise

In Louisiana sales, new industry and construction were reported well ahead of the rest of the country and the state had 1,900 more jobs than at the same time last year.

Reports of major advancement among the several cities checked include about 69 million dollars in planned improvements in Biloxi and Harrison County, Miss., and nearly 22 million dollars either being spent or planned by government and industry along the Mississippi coast; Jackson has a 75 million dollar construction program going.

Memphis reported building permits up 70 per cent in value

Growth Industry 350 Years Old

Logging of Southern Pine Has Outlived Death Notices

By JOHN J. ABELE

The Southern pine lumber industry, one of the oldest industries in the nation, is celebrating its 350th anniversary this year.

A mainstay of the Southern economy, both past and present, the industry traces its origins back to 1608 when the settlers at Jamestown first fashioned rude lumber out of the vast pine forests of Virginia.

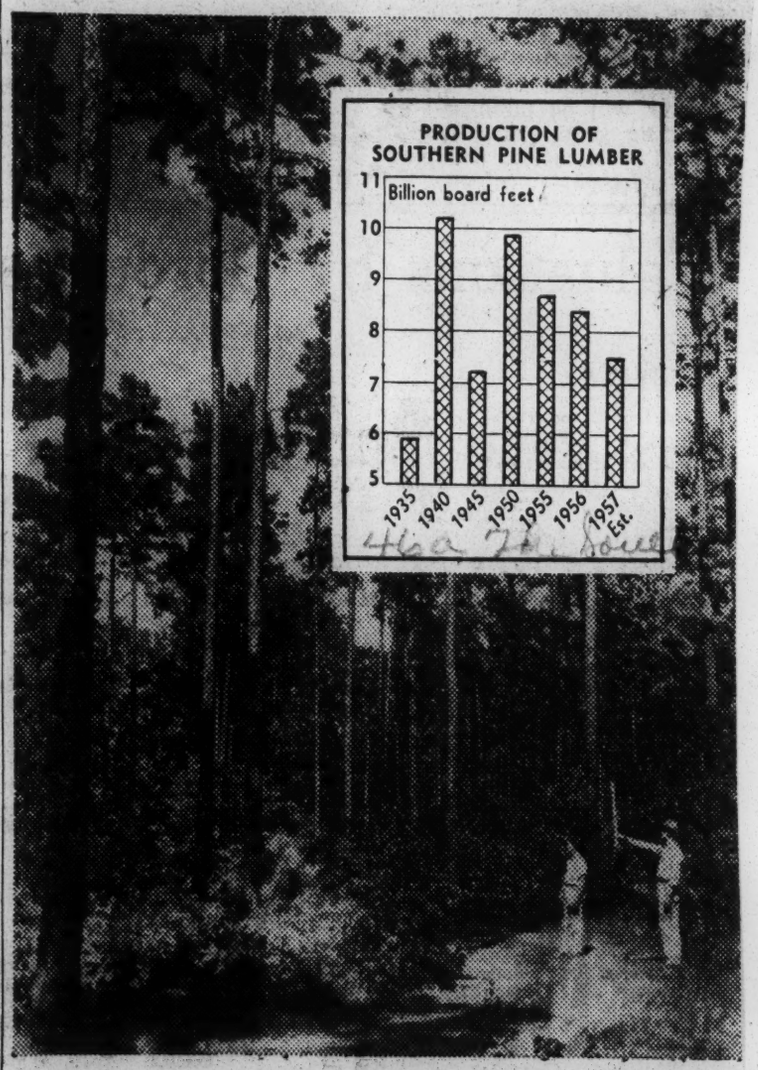
Since then Southern mills have turned out more than a trillion board feet of lumber. It has gone into the making of an estimated seventy-five to 100 million homes, from colonial mansions like Mount Vernon to the present day ranch and split-level models.

Like its fellow members of the "big three"—Douglas fir and Western pine—Southern pine accounts for about a quarter of the lumber produced in the nation. Output last year was about 7,500,000,000 board feet, of a total of thirty-four billion board feet. The region's 1,600 lumber mills and 350,000 employes represent about half of the total in the nation.

One of the first to realize the potential riches of the Southern pine forests was Captain John Smith, who, in an early report to the directors of the Virginia Company, noted that "the country is most overgrown with pine." The directors were more interested in gold and silver than lumber, but they dispatched a group of Dutch and Polish millwrights who presumably constructed a crude sawmill sometime in 1608. One of the first ships to return to England carried a cargo of "pitch, tar, clapboard and waynscot."

Although Southern pine formed an integral part of many colonial homes and plantation manors, commercial development did not begin on a large scale until after the Civil war. Lumber played a major role in rebuilding the war-torn south.

Railroads brought the North-Atlantic markets in closer contact with the South, and by 1890 the Southern lumber industry was a major operation. From 1899 until 1909, when output reached a peak of sixteen billion board feet, Southern pine supplied 40 to 50 per cent of the nation's structural lumber needs.



Forester uses a measuring stick to check growth of a Southern pine timber stand. Industry, one of nation's oldest, is marking 350th anniversary this year. Inset chart shows production trend since 1935.

"Dying" Business Lives

This productivity created a drain on the region's timber, and in time the big lumber operators moved to the Far West where timber was cheaper and more plentiful. From various quarters came predictions that the Southern lumber industry would be dead by 1930 "at the very latest."

Two factors kept the industry alive. One was the increasing value of timber land, which made the old "cut out and clear out" policies financially impossible. Another was the realization that replenishment of timber resources was essential to future operations.

The adoption of reforestation and forest management programs, together with the rapid growth of the Southern pine and the long growing season in the South, have restored the region's timber resources to a position of strength. The United States Forest Service estimates that the present growth of Southern pine exceeds the cut by about 22 per cent, more than the combined growth of all other softwoods in the country.

Quality Improved

Improvements in manufacturing, advances in technology and higher standards are key factors in the Southern pine lumber picture. Mechanization and better seasoning have improved the quality of the lumber. Debarking and chipping machinery has resulted in greater use of each log and reduced sharply the volume of waste. The industry is producing about one million cords of pulp chips a year from former waste products.

A leader in improving quality has been the Southern Pine Association, whose 150 members represent about 20 per cent of the area's production. A principal part of the association's drive for better standards has been its insistence on low moisture content. This reduces shrinkage and gives added strength to the wood.

Just at it forms the backbone of many American homes, Southern pine lumber is important in the framework of the Southern economy. The total value of forest products in the region is estimated at about $6 billion a year, with lumber contributing about $2,600,000,000. The rapidly growing pulp and paper field has a volume of about $2,400,000,000 a year. Furniture and naval stores make up most of the remainder.

Wide Range of Markets

Used widely in twelve Southern states, from Virginia to Texas, Southern pine also moves in large quantities into major markets in the Northeast, Midwest and Southwest. The nearness of producing to consuming areas means lower costs, quicker deliveries and better service.

The density of Southern pine wood gives it a strength and durability that make it particularly useful for structural work and industrial uses. It is widely used for sheathing, siding, flooring, interior woodwork, boxes and crates. Railroads are big customers of Southern pine, using it for bridges and trestles, freight car construction and crossties. Farmers also are big customers. They own about 52 per cent of the commercial forest land where Southern pine grows. The logs they supply to sawmills often return in the form

FOREST ACREAGE 40 PCT. IN SOUTH

Region Has 193 Million Acres, Report

A report showing that the South has 193 million acres of commercial forest land has been released by the United States forest service, Philip A. Briegleb, one of its authors and director of the Southern Forest Experiment Station here, announced Saturday.

The book is entitled "Timber Resources for America's Future" and is described as the most complete and detailed analysis ever to be made of the nation's timber resources.

Briegleb said that statistics for the book were gathered not only by the forest service, but by other public agencies and many private industries and individuals. This co-operation, he said, made the report by far the best of its kind. He said that state forester James Mixon and many Louisiana industries contributed much information.

Louisiana Leads

The South's acreage represents 40 per cent of the nation's total, according to the report, and accounts for half of the country's timber growth.

Louisiana has more hardwood saw timber than any other state in the Union and among Southern and Eastern states it ranks second only to North Carolina in total volume of softwood and hardwood saw timber, according to the report.

It foresees sharply increased demands for wood as the nation's population grows. The South, Briegleb said, has the soils, climate, and trees to capture a very large part of the national market. Productivity of Southern forests, especially those in public and industrial ownership, has increased substantially since World War II, "but still greater opportunities are at hand."

Private Tracts

In Louisiana, as in most other states, the bulk of the forest is in small, privately owned tracts. How the four and a half million owners of these small tracts manage their lands, the report says, will largely determine how well the nation's future woodbox is filled.

By planting trees on idle acres, removing nonproductive trees to favor better ones, and stepping up protection against forest fires, insects and disease, the owners could increase both their own income and the nation's timber supply. In Louisiana and other Southern states trees grow so rapidly that measures of this kind would pay large and speedy dividends, Briegleb said.

The report concludes by saying that there are no timber famines in sight, but some shortages can be expected, especially of softwood saw timber of the preferred species and grades.

Help Families Of Sick Migrants—Rev. Carter

LYNCHBURG, Va. —Funds for supporting families of ill migrant workers is one of the pressing needs of the migrant ministry program, the Rev. J. A. Carter has reported to the Winchester area committee of the Virginia Council of Churches.

The minister chaplain for some 1,700 migrants who follow fruit and vegetable harvests along the East Coast, said that while these workers are covered by hospitalization insurance, no funds are available for their families while the breadwinners cannot work.

Some 80 Winchester camp workers were treated at hospitals there during the past season, the clergyman asserted.

AMONG THE chaplain's duties are to see that workers receive adequate medical treatment, give religious and spiritual guinance in numerous problems which arise, and to plan and execute recreational programs for adults and young people.

Classes supervised and conducted by the chaplain include driver education classes, art, reading, writing, and health for young children who don't get to go to a regular school more than three months out of a year. Sunday school classes are held for children on Sunday mornings.

• • •

THE MINISTER conducts devotions each morning at 4 o'clock. The workers hear a few minutes of inspirational music and thoughts for the day before going to work. On Wednesday and Friday evenings, devotions are held in the dining rooms.

At least at the camps he supervises at Winchester, Va., Charlestown and Martinsburg, W. Va.

WORKING UNDER the auspices of the National Council of Churches, chaplain Carter served migrant workers in Florida and New York before being recommended to the Virginia council this fall by Myron Miller, Virginia Council director of Richmond. In a letter to one of Rev. Mr. Carter's three rural churches, the Rev. Mr. Charles S. Owens, Steuben area migrant committee chairman of New York State, said recently, "The migrants come into this area in very large numbers. A graduate of the Virginia Theological Seminary and College in Lynchburg, Rev. Mr. Carter has done further study in rural religious education at Lincoln University in Pennsylvania.

Rev. J. A. CARTER
Migrants' Chaplain

Nashville's Slums Vanishing Into Areas of Modern Homes

Impressive Buildings Replace Ugliness of Hovels, Brothels

By GENE BRITTON
Atlanta Journal-Constitution Staff Writer

NASHVILLE, Tenn., April 26—This historic mountaineer city—which pridefully claims to contain favorite haunts of Old Hickory's ghost—has been

Nashville's frontier spirit of a century and a half ago has manifested itself again in the way the city is raising beautiful, modern structures on what a few years ago was the site of some of the worst slums and most infamous blight districts in the country. President Andrew Jackson, who walked these streets when they were new, would be proud of what his descendants have done to the town.

The shacks and shanties are gone from Capitol Hill. The filth and ugliness and misery have been banished forever from the courthouse neighborhood.

* * *

THE TENNESSEE State Capitol building now sits in beauty on a sloping, terraced, grassy knoll. The first of the impressive, white buildings already are standing in the green crescent where hovels and brothels used to be.

There will be more fine edifices for a progressive people in the very near future. There will be stores, luxury apartments, near-downtown motor courts, office buildings — all surrounded by their own lawns and gardens, each built with simple, dream-like beauty.

Nashville has shown Atlanta what a city can do—if Atlanta's leadership and citizenry push forward as aggressively and determinedly as Nashville's people and officials have.

A slum area near Georgia's Capitol building was cleared under the federal housing program in the early 1940s. Capitol Homes was built back in the area under the jurisdiction of the Atlanta Housing Authority and were first occupied in April, 1941.

* * *

LIKE MOST cities where urban renewal has been successful, Nashville attributes its bright rejuvenation to three major factors:

1. Aggressive leadership, first from the mayor and the city council, then from all departments of the city government.

2. A good, all-'round public relations job which sold the program from the grass-roots up and

3. Whole-hearted community support once the public became convinced of the necessity and the common benefits to be reaped from what was happening.

NASHVILLE had one advantage Atlanta didn't have in getting its program under way. It got an early start and won all the court cases that attempted to kill the program before it could start rolling. Atlanta suffered a setback when the courts killed the first urban renewal project in the McDaniel street area and the city had to start over from the beginning.

Almost as soon as Congress, in 1949, passed the act under which urban renewal operates, Nashville filed its "workable program" for carrying the slum clearance and beautification plans through.

When the State of Tennessee saw that the officials of its capital city meant business, its officials got into the act, too.

Nashville's Capitol Hill project boundary is a half circle around the base of the knoll. Until 1953, the slums pushed right up the hill almost to the back door of the capitol building.

* * *

THE STATE acquired and cleared a strip of slum land nearest to the capitol. The city has cleared all the filthy shambles out of the rest of the area.

In its strip, the state has erected two new office buildings, the Cordell Hull State Office Building and the State Library Archives Building. Both are magnificently beautiful structures. A third state office building is under construction.

Down the terraced slope from the new state buildings, grassy areas await further development by private enterprise. Several developers are already committed to putting in luxury apartment buildings, private office structures and other structural monuments to a progressive new city within an old one.

* * *

THE NARROW shantytown alleys, flanked by hovels, have been replaced by a beautiful four-lane boulevard.

The tearing down and redevelopment has poured millions of dollars into Nashville's economy. The gross project cost amounted to $11,727,901.

But Nashville still is not satisfied.

The city last week submitted its preliminary planning reports on its second big project to the federal government. The second project, East Nashville, is one of the largest single urban renewal areas in the country with a total of 2,256 acres to be cleared of slums or rehabilitated.

* * *

CHARLES HAWKINS, head of the Nashville-Davidson County Planning Commission, said the last Nashville project so far has run smoothly with little opposition, largely because of the tremendous success of the first project on Capitol Hill.

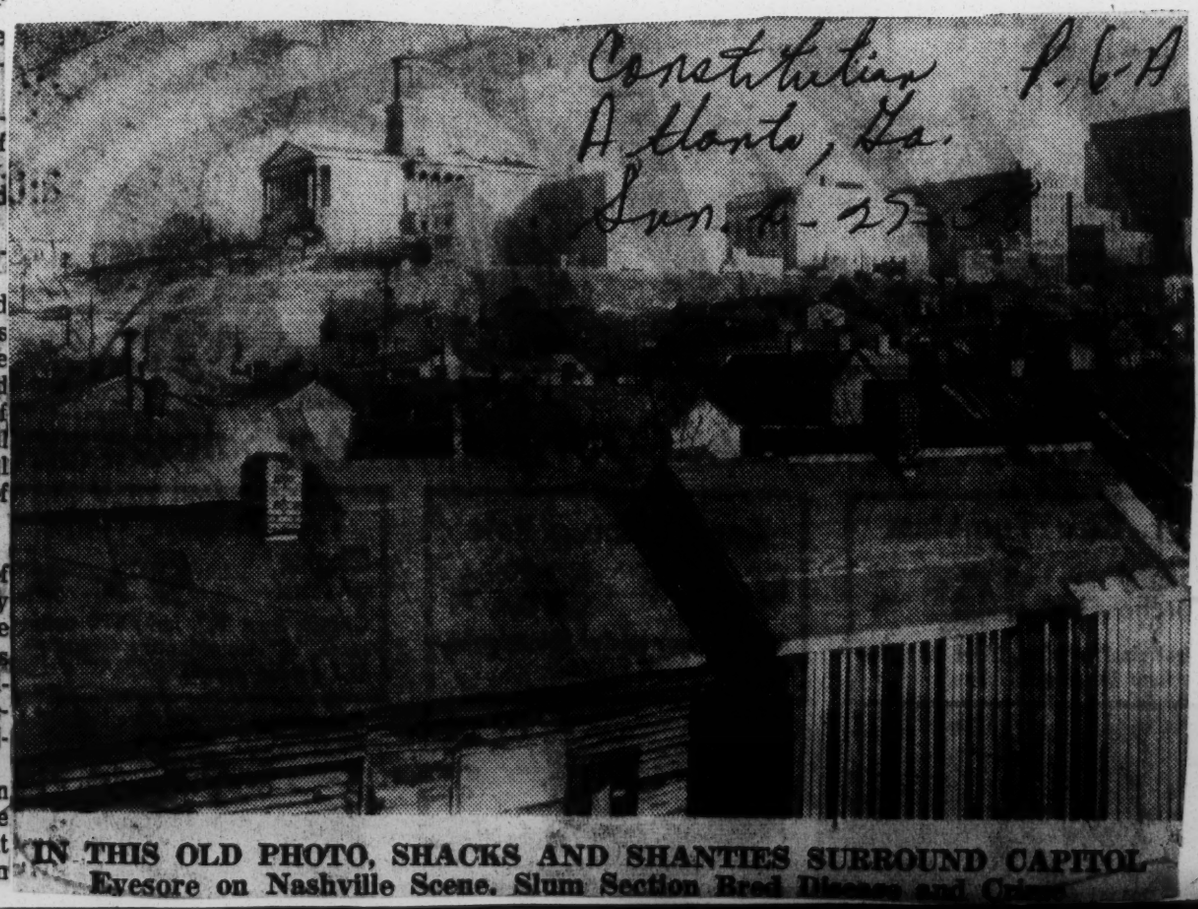
Of course, being a pioneer in urban renewal, Nashville made mistakes in its first program. But the city has learned from them and it is determined not to repeat them in East Nashville.

For instance, in relocation of families, 301 families moved out of the slums surrounding the capitol. Of that number, 71 moved into public housing, 17 purchased good, standard homes in better neighborhoods, 38 families rented standard quarters. But 167 of the families moved into other slums, even though they were offered better dwellings, Nashville housing authorities admit. They are determined to correct the errors in East Nashville.

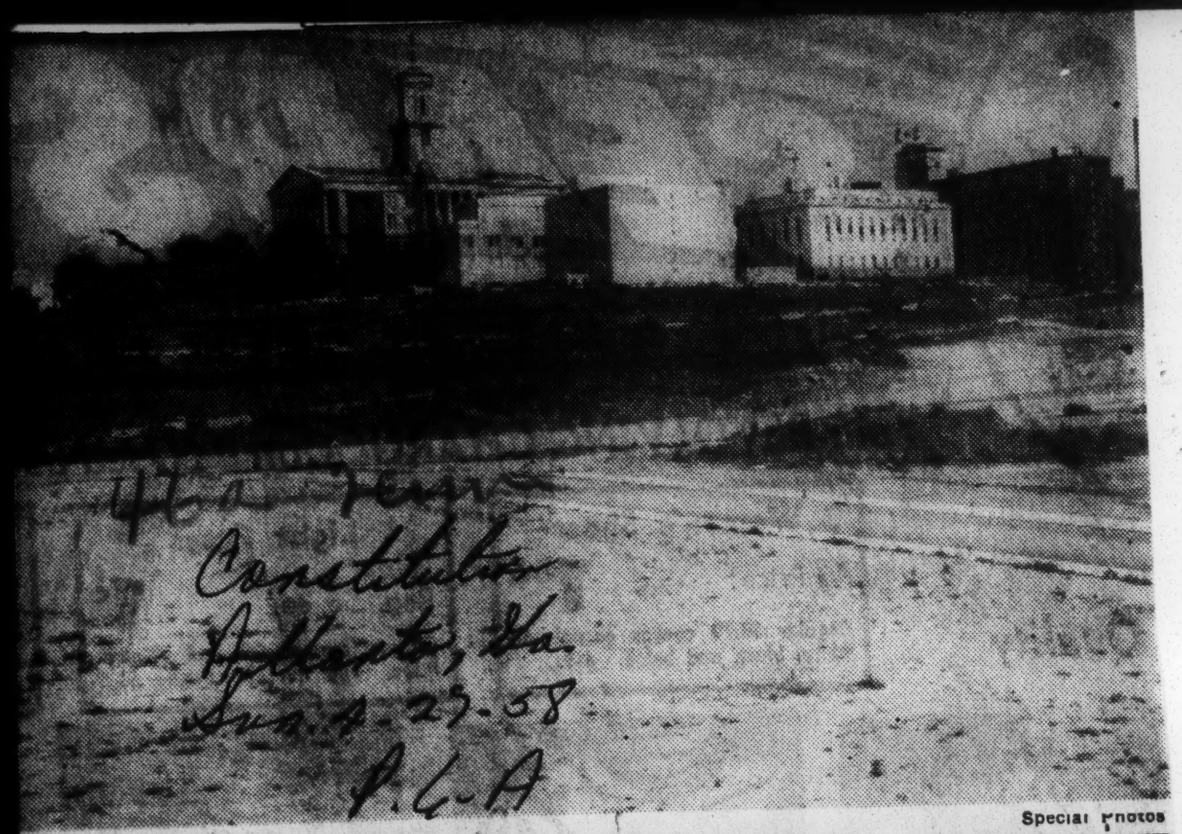
* * *

IN ALL other respects, the Capitol Hill project is the best selling point for the new project.

"The people are marveling at the change that has taken place on the Hill since 1953," Hawkins said. "Selling the program is far more easy now than it was then. In fact, the main problem we have is getting people to have patience while the plans are being studied by the federal government. They've seen what urban renewal is and they're clamoring for more."



IN THIS OLD PHOTO, SHACKS AND SHANTIES SURROUND CAPITOL—Eyesore on Nashville Scene. Slum Section Bred Disease and Crime



Special Photos

ODAY, UNSIGHTLY HOVELS HAVE BEEN REMOVED, LAND CLEARED
Bright New Buildings—Hotels. Offices. Apartments—to Replace Slums

Center For Negro Children To Offer Day Care For Needy

46a

By IDA CLEMENS

Sammy's father was killed last year in a farm accident. His mother has to work. Confined to a wheel chair, his grandmother is unable to look after the boy. Sammy picks up snacks when he can but is often hungry. His thin body and solemn face reflect undernourishment and neglect.

To help Negro children like Sammy, the Pre-School Association of Memphis and Shelby County is campaigning for funds to start a day care center.

It will be called the Jessie Mahan Center for Pre-School Children in tribute to the late Miss Mahan, longtime director of the Child Welfare Division of the Health and Welfare Planning Council and guiding spirit behind the pre-school association.

Half Money Donated

Half of the $10,000 needed to open the center in September has been donated anonymously, with provision that the remaining $5,000 be raised from other sources.

Since announcement of the project, $725 has been collected from white and Negro donors concerned with the need for the center, Mrs. W. B. Dunham, association president, reported yesterday.

"Negro members of our committee hope to raise $3000 of the $5000 needed," she said. "The Bluff City and Shelby County Council of Civic Clubs gave $100 and the 36 member clubs have pledged additional support.

Employes Give $56

"Following a talk by Miss Willa McWilliams, second grade teacher at Manassas, employes in the warehouse division of Jones & Laughlin Steel Corporation donated $56.

"Enthusiastic support has come from members of the Vassar Club and civic-minded individuals and organizations. Wherever we have gone, we have met a warm welcome and highly encouraging response," Mrs. Dunham said.

The proposed center also will serve as a demonstration center where other nursery and kindergarten teachers may come to observe the best methods for care and education of pre-school children.

It will be in Dixie Homes in rent-free space made available by the Memphis Housing Authority.

Green Teas Set

Various Negro organizations will sponsor community-wide "green teas" Sept. 21. Patrons of the teas are now being solicited. The person with the largest number of patrons will be crowned Miss Green Tea, Mrs. K. G. Robbins, association executive secretary, said. Mrs. R. Q. Venson, past president of the National Dental Auxiliary, is chairman of the teas.

The center will be limited at first to 25 Negro children who will be screened to determine those most in need of nursery care due to home conditions. Boys and girls from 3 to school age will be eligible and fees will be charged according to ability to pay.

The Negro Shriners and Daughters of Isis will lend the center $350 worth of approved toys, Mrs. Robbins said.

The campaign runs to Oct. 9. Donations may be sent to the Jessie Mahan Center at 742 Adams.

NASHVILLE URBAN RENEWAL CONFEREES—Left to right: Al Thompson, FHA Regional Racial Relations Officer; Keynoter Joseph B. Graves Jr., Executive Secretary National Committee of the Voluntary Home Mortgage Credit Program; Tennessee State University President, Dr. W. S. Davis, and Mayor Ben West.

Nashville finishes first housing clinic

NASHVILLE, Tenn. — Nashville's first annual urban renewal and housing clinic at Tennessee State University completed a successful 2-day session last week as nearly 90 persons from key industries, Federal, state and local housing agencies, and benefits of Federal housing and urban renewal met.

The clinic, co - sponsored by Tennessee State University and the Nashville - Davidson County Citizens Committee on Urban Renewal, opened with a keynote address by Joseph B. National Committee of the Vol-Graves, executive secretary untary Home Mortgage Credit Program.

A welcoming address by given by the Ben West, mayor of Nashville.

L. A. Dingley, member of the steering committee for the clinic, and executive director of the co - sponsoring Council of Community Agencies, presided in the first panel discussion of the meaning of urban renewal and how it works.

* * *

A. L. THOMPSON, regional racial relations officer, Federal Housing Authority, Atlanta, presided.

Planning for the first annual urban renewal and housing clinic was directed by a 5-man steering committee, composed of Tennessee State's Coordinator of Industrial Relations W. V. Harper; L. A. Dingley, Lee Sanders, Nashville director of Urban Renewal, Mrs. Charles S. Johnson, Nashville civic leader; and Mrs. James Todd, president, Nashville Women's Forum.

"RELOCATION Problems, Plans and Citizen Participation" was the topic for discussion during the second session. Harry A. Alston, southern field director, National Urban League, Atlanta, Ga., presided.

Dr. George W. Snowden, assistant to the Commissioner, Federal Housing Administration, Washington, was the speaker at the conference dinner session.

Greetings to the urban renewal audience were again extended by Dr. W. S. Davis, president of Tennessee State; and Sanders Anglea, vice mayor of Nashville.

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Housing Clinic Draws Top Names to Nashville

Courier, P.T., Sec. 2- Sat 4-5-58 Penn
Pittsburgh, Pa. 46a Housing

NASHVILLE, Tenn.—Nashville's first annual urban renewal and housing clinic at Tennessee State University completed a successful two-day session last week as nearly 90 persons from key industries, Federal, state, and local housing agencies, and interested communities became acquainted with the laws, problems, procedures and benefits of Federal housing and urban renewal.

The clinic, co-sponsored by Tennessee State University and the Nashville-Davidson County Citizens Committee on Urban Renewal, opened with a keynote address by Joseph B. Graves, executive secretary, national committee of the Voluntary Home Mortgage Credit program, and a welcoming address by the Hon. Ben West, Mayor of Nashville.

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Two City Areas Under Study For Construction Of Homes To House Negro Families

South And North Memphis Sites Proposed To Take Care Of 4,800 Groups Slated To Be Displaced

By MIKE McGEE

Both South Memphis and North Memphis areas suitable for standard, loan-acceptable housing for Negroes, displaced by public improvements, are being studied.

The South area is on both sides of Perry, from Norris south to the Expressway Route. The North area is on Hawkins Mill Road, east of Overton Crossing Road.

Walter Simmons, director of the Memphis Housing Authority, charged with the responsibility of relocating families, yesterday expressed "grave concern" because of the failure to provide an adequate amount of standard housing for Negro families who will have to move because of freeways, urban renewal, school extension and other public improvements.

"It has been pointed out," he said, "that we have 4,800 Negro families to relocate because of these public improvements. This will necessitate no less than 2,000 new homes be built to adequately provide for these families, and at least another 500 dwelling units be built for rental purposes that will add to the inventory to help relocate these families. Six hundred public housing units will be started by June to care for those families who are not able to pay for decent, safe and sanitary housing and these areas for these two now are being purchased."

Expresses Concern

Mr. Simmons went on to express concern over the handicaps that hinder the building of Negro housing by private enterprise. He pointed out in the past areas have been selected to build private housing, only to be bought up as parks or playgrounds because of community disturbances. "This added a great deal to our inability to provide private housing to meet the need," he said.

"We have now reached the point where we must permit the building of houses for the Negro race because its growth is in line with the growth of the white race in the city. Our growth has been constant since 1950, when we claimed a population of 396,000. Now our claims are close to 500,000. It must be further pointed out that the need for this housing not only ties in with public improvements, but adds to the safety of our communities where, within the last 10 days, lives have been lost because of inadequate housing and the excessive heating of these houses because of weather conditions."

Mr. Simmons continued: "It must be concluded that no one in the City of Memphis has the right to designate an area for either Negro or white occupancy. Many times communities besiege public officials with petitions and ask that permits not be issued to build Negro housing in certain communities. None of our city officials has the legal right to pass judgment on this even though the communities themselves may have objections.

Area Suggested

"Suggestions of course can be made. The area, for example, located near Perry Road, is simply an extension of the Elliston Heights Negro subdivision of 209 individual houses. About 1,100 new houses can be built in this area."

Also suggested by Mr. Simmons as a likely area is the land along both sides of Hawkins Mill Road in North Memphis, where 400 or more houses could be built.

"Public transportation," he stressed, "is a necessity where houses are located in the county and without city transportation. Inadequate city transportation places a burden on the families, and Walker Homes is an example.

"We have reached the point where somebody has to do something for Negro housing and I believe it is clear to the real estate fraternity that unless we can build housing by private enterprise that the inevitable will be additional public housing, which we do not want to build.

"We hope, with the co-operation of the Home Builders, the Real Estate Board, the Mortgage Bankers Association and the Federal Housing Administration areas can be chosen for planned communities."

Endorsed By Group

Both the Real Estate Board and the Home Builders Association, told of Mr. Simmons' statement endorsed in general the need for areas where Negro housing can be built. Both organizations likewise stressed the need for transportation, police and fire protection in areas where Negro housing is built.

The South area suggested by Mr. Simmons is bounded by Norris on the north at a point east of Warren. This suggested area would move on east on Norris to Perry and down Perry to where Ball Road could be extended along the south boundary of the Army Depot. It would follow this line to Lloyd, go south on Lloyd to Alcy Road, east to McRae and south to the Southeast Expressway Route. It would follow the Expressway Route to Warren, go north on Warren to Alcy, jog east to the back line of white homes facing Warren north of Alcy, and follow this back lot line to the point of origin. Alcy Road is the city limits.

Perry, the west boundary of the Army Depot, is to become an 80-foot street south to the Expressway Route, where it will deadend.

A site for a Negro school is suggested by Mr. Simmons on the west side of Perry between Clementine Realigned and the Expressway Route.

Mr. Simmons also reported that city bus transportation for this area should be improved and E. P. McCallum Jr., president of the Memphis Street Railway Co., has told him this would be done. Bus routes would be changed to connect Perry and Alcy with Bellevue on the west.

Developers Listed

Among developers, who already have acquired land that could be used for Negro housing in the area are Holiday Heights, Inc., organized by Irby Cooper, M. C. Kelinfeldt and Ralph Shankman; Sam Dattel, Wallace E. Johnson, Blaylock & Brown and McNeill Ayreas. W. D. Jemison & Sons, Inc. also owns land in the general area.

James E. Kerwin, director the Federal Housing Administration, had shown interest in the two areas and reported his organization is prepared to issue mortgage financing insurance on Negro housing in both areas from $7,500 to $16,000. He said:

"Open only to those who must move under the public works program is the FHA Title 221 program, which permits us to insure loans of those forced to move up to $9,000. Loans may run as long as 40 years. Practically no down payment is required other than $200 closing costs, and there is even a provision to borrow this money."

It is significant that under the federally - supervised relocation program, Mr. Simmons is not permitted to issue necessary papers for relocated persons to buy, unless they are buying standard housing. This means full sanitary facilities, including baths. Neither is the FHA permitted to issue mortgage commitments on other than standard housing. Baths are not required under the City Building Code, however.

Work Praised

Both the Real Estate Board and the Home Builders in formal statements praised the slum rehabilitation work under the direction of City Commissioner John T. Dwyer.

The Real Estate Board statement:

"The Real Estate Board recognizes, however, that the problem has been only partially solved and that the problems will be intensified due to the displacement of large numbers of home owners and tenants through the operation of the expressways and urban rehabilitation programs. We recognize our responsibility in this, and will co-operate fully in bringing about a solution of the problem. It is our judgment that a number of areas should be immediately selected for development by private enterprise for housing our Negro population.

"We also feel that it is extremely important that the city and county authorities be prepared to arrange for adequate facilities, including public utilities, schools, public transportation and adequate fire and police protection for such selected areas. Only by positive action by the city, county, Real Estate Board, Home Builders and other allied groups, can this task be accomplished."

The Home Builders in their statement declared:

"The Builders feel strongly there is a great need for immediate development of areas throughout the city for Negro occupancy. As a result of the proopsed urban renewal and other public improvement programs, the need for this becomes more urgent."

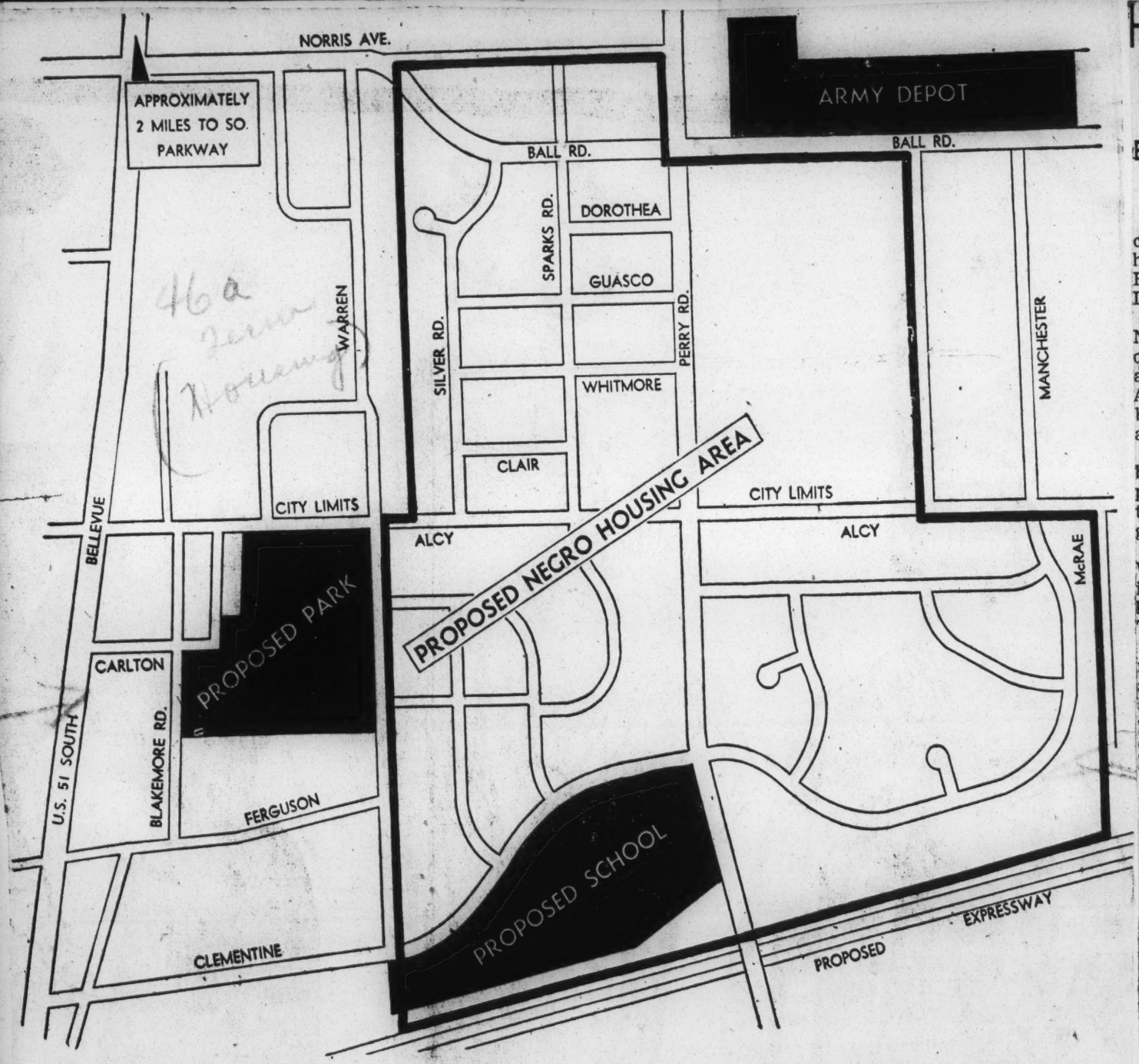
Outstanding Job

It went on to point out that Mr. Dwyer's slum rehabilitation program had done an outstanding job, but "that additional new housing for Negro occupancy must be provided."

The problem of providing this housing rests primarily on the Home Builders of Memphis, and we realize and accept this responsibility. During the past two years members of our association have built approximately 1,725 new housing units for Negroes. We have the builders with the organization, ability and financing who are anxious and willing to create several thousand additional new housing units annually until the requirements of the Negro population have been met, provided proper areas can be designated and proper co-operation can be secured from the City of Memphis and Shelby County.

"It must be realized that the responsibility for this job rests not only on the Home Builders, but also on the municipal authorities, as these areas must have the same type of facilities which are afforded other sections of the city.

"We have assurances that the Real Estate Board of Memphis and the mortgage bankers of Memphis will join with us in doing this important job."



FOR NEGRO HOUSING—Area within the heavy black line is suggested by Walter Simmons, Memphis Housing Authority director, as a location for new Negro housing. He describes the area as an extension of Elliston Heights, Negro subdivision, which extends from Norris, the north boundary of the suggested Negro area, to Dunn.

HOMES FOR NEGROES UNDER CONSTRUCTION

Blaylock & Brown Start In Perry Road Area

Blaylock & Brown have started construction on the first of 120 homes for Negroes in the Perry Road area southwest of the Army Depot.

The subdivision, known as Norris Hills, is on the east side of Perry Road, south of Norris, and extends east to Lloyd Road. A new street, Antonio Road, will bisect the subdivision at an angle from Perry to Lloyd.

The first houses are to be built on Perry Road, with more planned on Antonio as soon as this street is laid out, graded and graveled.

The land is owned by Mary Wood, Inc., of which Kyle Tapp is president and sales of the houses will be handled by Kyle Tapp & Co.

The first homes will have a minimum of 1,000 square feet of space and will go on the market at a price of about $11,500. They will have three bedrooms and one bath and each house will have a carport.

Later, Auvergne Blaylock of the building firm reports the company is planning some three-bedroom, two-bath homes at prices of from $15,000 to $16,000.

Lots in the subdivision will average out about 60-by-150 feet.

The location is directly across the Perry from the location where Irby Cooper & Associates has a 138-lot subdivision for Negroes, with some 50 houses under construction.

These houses are in the $9,000 price range and Mr. Cooper reports some sales have been made pending completion and approval of financing.

Some half dozen Memphis mortgage bankers are reported offering money for the Perry Road area Negro housing.

Texas Leads Nation In Minority Loans

DALLAS, Tex. — The Dallas Regional Office of the voluntary home mortgage credit program, which has jurisdiction over Texas and New Mexico, leads the nation in number of percentage of minority home loans placed, according to a statement released here Saturday by C. J. Hermann, executive secretary of the Region XIII committee.

Out of 1,477 applications received in the Dallas office, 1,051 loans were placed representing 89 per cent of the total in the region, he stated. Practically all of the loans were in the State of Texas.

According to Hermann, 41.4 per cent of all applications received in the Dallas regional office were submitted by members of minority groups which is the highest ratio in the nation.

Due to the low interest rate, VHMCP is not able at this time to place VA loans and therefore is confining its activity solely to FHA loans.

The VHMCP was created by an Act of Congress through the Housing Act of 1954. It was established to help make mortgage money available for home loans insured by FHA or guaranteed by VA in small communities and rural areas, and for minority groups generally.

Applications for assistance are filed with the Agency by builders, civic leaders and individuals.

Dr. George Snowden In Dallas For Dedication Of Highland Hills Homes

DALLAS. — Dr. George W. Snowden, assistant to the commissioner of the Federal Housing Administration in Washington, was a special luncheon guest and featured speaker at the dedication of Highland Hills, Dallas' newest subdivision for Negroes which took place Saturday and Sunday, July 19-20.

The luncheon was served to more than 50 community leaders in the Woodmen building on Oakland Ave. at noon Saturday. The dedication services took place Sunday afternoon at Highland Hills near the newly acquired church which will house the Bishop college junior college next fall.

Dr. Snowden, who made a special trip to Dallas in order to study the development which features homes in the $8,350 price class, said in his brief remarks at the luncheon: "I have a special pleasure in being here because these homes, as I know them from the brochure, represent hopes of comfort and higher living standards for people, of a minority group with lowest incomes. Heretofore, we have been known as slum dwellers. This project means inspiration and hope for such people who need and must have inspiration."

Congratulates Dallas

He congratulated Dallas for its Negro ministerial leadership which was evident among the luncheon guests, referred to A. Maceo Smith, racial relations adviser to FHA in this region as "one of the men in this country who has made a great contribution to housing for minorities" and the Dallas Negro Chamber of Commerce and Secretary-Manager J. W. Rice for "proving that participation in the growth and development of a great city are possible for a minority."

The luncheon was jointly sponsored by the Dallas Interdenominational Ministerial alliance, Bishop college, which has already acquired 100 acres of land in the sub-division for the college which will be moved to Dallas, The Dallas Negro Chamber of Commerce and the Vernon and James Smith company, builders and developers of the project.

Tells Values Of FHA

A. Maceo Smith for FHA told of the great values involved in making a low-cost home available to people of comparatively low income.

Edward L. Reed, first vice-president of the Dallas Negro Chamber of Commerce, told of the pleasure which that organization had experienced in helping in every way possible to make the additional homes available.

Dr. M. K. Curry, president of Bishop college told the "Bishop College Story" calling it "the romance of a great commitment."

Rev. E. C. Estelle, told of the part played by the Ministerial alliance in making the location of Bishop college in Dallas a reality and Vernon Smith, member of the development firm and mayor protem of Dallas, told of the advantages to be had by home owners in the sub-division which now has possibilities of spreading 10 square miles in the area because of annexment of that area by the city of Dallas.

Among the guests present were: Director Charels of the Federal Housing Administration in Dallas; James Smith, brother of Vernon Smith and partner in the developing corporation and Jack Wyatt of the public relations firm which is in charge of publicity for the sub-division and producer of "Confessions" recently sold to the ABC Television Network, the first such production nationally televised and originating in the Southwest.

Rev. H. Rhett James, pastor of the New Hope Baptist church, gave the invocation. Rev. Brooks Joshua, pastor of the Munger Avenue Baptist church, gave the benediction. J. W. Rice, secretary-manager of the Dallas Negro Chamber of Commerce, acted as master of ceremonies.

Virginia Community Plans Action On 'Mixed' Housing

PORTSMOUTH, Va. (AP)—A small group of residents decided Sunday to ask city council to adopt an ordinance that would cut off welfare funds to Negroes who move into white neighborhoods.

Seven residents of the Prentis Park Section of Portsmouth attended a meeting called after Mrs. Julia Washington, a Negro, and her four children moved into the area.

The house into which the Washington family moved last Friday had been vacant since September.

Mrs. Washington is a restaurant employe. Her children range in age from three to 16. She and her husband, a laborer, are separated. She said she supports her family unassisted except for welfare funds. She pays $12.50 per week rent for the house.

Before she moved Friday she and her children had lived with her nephew and his family of six in his five-room home.

V.A. TO HELP STATE IN ANTI-BIAS FIGHT

Builders Who Discriminate Against Veterans Will Lose Housing Loan Benefits

The State Commission Against Discrimination and the Veterans Administration have agreed that builders who have discriminated against a veteran because of his race or beliefs will be disqualified from future Federal insurance benefits.

Charles Abrams, Discrimination Commission chairman, announced the detailed agreement yesterday with the Federal Government's most active agency in the home-building field. He described it as a cooperative plan arrived at to assure his commission of its full enforcement powers under the Metcalf-Baker Law. Passed in July, 1955, that law prohibits discrimination in the sale of Government-assisted housing.

A deeper meaning of the new agreement, and one that he has long viewed as essential to the effectiveness of state anti-discrimination agencies, Mr. Abrams said, was the apparent development of a Federal trend to assist in the enforcement of state civil rights laws.

He said he hoped the trend would eventually be extended to include employment.

Mr. Abrams asked Edward Rutledge, housing director of the commission, to maintain a continuing liaison between the commission and the Veterans Administration in connection with the agreement.

The arrangement is similar to one made in 1956 between the commission and the Federal Housing Administration.

Under the plan, the state agency will notify all builders

Too big a problem—

Alabama joins other states to help the aged

BY TRUDY CARGILE
News staff writer

ATLANTA, Ga., March 1—Alabama joined ranks with 14 other Southern states in Atlanta this week in probing the problems of the aged.

The task of prescribing for needs of an increasing number of senior citizens is not to be solved by a single group, testimony at the two-day conference tended to prove.

Speaking for Sen. John Sparkman (D., Ala.), John Horne, administrative assistant to the lawmaker, placed much of the responsibility on Congress. But the total problems, he added, must be solved on the state and local level.

Too many of the aging are being denied the right to work, Horne said, pointing out that the Bureau of Labor Statistics has invisioned a national productivity increase annually of $5 billion with the employment of older persons.

FURTHER statistics from the National Council on Aging, Horne disclosed, show that that 20,000 retired engineers and physical scientists are inactive because they are 65 years of age or older. Horne said the 65 and older population has increased four times while the population has doubled since the turn of the century and the work life of the individual has shortened.

Although Social Security has done much to ease the economic aspects of providing for the older group, the surface has just been scratched in other fields, Horne said.

There must yet be more systematic research in chronic illnesses, more beds for clinical cases and more adequate housing at a cost the retired worker can afford, he said.

ASIDE FROM the humanitarian aspects for caring for the aged, the increasing numbers of men and women in the group must be considered, Gov. Cecil H. Underwood of West Virginia declared.

Within a short time, this group will comprise one-fourth of the voting population of the nation and will offer live bait to the unscrupulous who would use them if possible to sway congressional and legislative action, Underwood said.

Alabama, one of the more recent states to form a commission on the aging, presented one of the largest delegations among the approximately 150 persons present for the conference.

They included Dr. D. G. Gill, state health officer; Kitty Clyde Austin, pensions and security; John B. Bethea Jr., Department of Industrial Relations; Charles M. Cooper, Legislative Reference Service.

The Rev. Paul A. Duffy, and Mrs. George B. Edwards, members of committee on aging; Dr. Ira L. Meyers, Department of Public Health; E. C. Pippin, Alabama Labor Council AFL-CIO; Mary Margaret Clark, Council on Aging and James Patton, information officer, Birmingham.

THE ALABAMA COMMISSION, still in its formulative stage, presented its own side of the picture before the conference in group study sessions.

From 1900 to 1950, it was pointed out, the population of Alabama in the 65 years or older group has increased 55 per cent. With the present trend, it is estimated that the figure may triple by 1960.

Like other states, the Alabama commission is embarking on a study of early detection and prevention of chronic diseases, improvement in nursing homes, recruiting trained personnel for care of chronic cases and distributing educational materials to meet the specific needs of the future.

THE ATLANTA conference, one of four scheduled in the nation under the direction of the Council of State Governments, will produce combined statistics from this area of 15 states.

Similar studies in the other three areas are expected to be gathered by the end of the year and assimiliated for use by the council possibly within the upcoming year.

If the Atlanta conference is any indication, recommendations and resolutions may be forthcoming that will insist on studies in fields ranging from employment of the aged to extended medical insurance coverage for all ages.

Started as experiment—

Blind merchants proved they can earn own living

BY JULIA HOLLEY
News staff writer

Walter Johnson was something of a pioneer.

When he opened his store for business in the Southtown Housing Project in 1949, it was up to him to prove something.

The Birmingham Housing Authority and the State Vocational Rehabilitation Service had picked him for the experiment. And it was up to him to show that it doesn't take eyes to handle a small shop.

Since Walter got his business going, identical stands have been opened in exery public housing project in the city. Their operators are all blind. They are all men who before their merchandising days had little income from anything except odd jobs and welfare funds.

Today they're proudly supporting their families on their own income.

WALTER, FOR INSTANCE, was a newspaper carrier before he became a merchant. His income totaled $664 a year. Last year he learned $1560.

Birmingham Housing Authority decided 10 years ago to permit such stores to be set up in its housing projects, and helped the State Vocational Rehabilitation Service select sites for them.

The local office of the Vocational Rehabilitation Service terms this decision one of the most progressive steps ever taken toward helping blind people stand on their own feet. While the idea has been spreading from Walter Johnson's store in Southtown to the rest of the Birmingham area projects, it also has spread to other parts of the country.

Housing officials from Texas and Virginia have come here to find out how well the operators were doing and have subsequently copied the idea in their own states.

THE SITES for the stores are contributed by the Housing Authority. The stores are built and the initial inventory is furnished by the Vocational Rehabilitation Service.

For the post of merchant in charge, there are two requirements that are never waived. The potential store manager must be blind and he must be living in the housing project where the store is being established.

Each of the stores has been set up on a site selected to prevent its competition with a private merchant.

The operators each have spent two to four months in training with the adult education department at Talladega School for the Blind. The school taught them basic principles of merchandising, taught them to arrange their stock so they could find all items by touch and taught them to handle money.

With the exception of one custom, they operate their stores such as any other grocer or merchant would. The one exception is that they've been coached to accept no tender larger than a one dollar bill. All store managers can tell the difference in dimes and quarters, but a one-dollar bill feels just like a five.

HERE'S HOW some of the other operators have fared:

In Central City, Clarnce E. Mann, who lost his sight because of an eye injury many years ago, operates his stand with the help of his wife and daughter, who are both blind from congenital cataracts.

Before the stand was opened Mann made $990 a year by making and selling brooms. Last year, profits from his store, which is a comparatively new one, were $1393. Both his wife and daughter are employed.

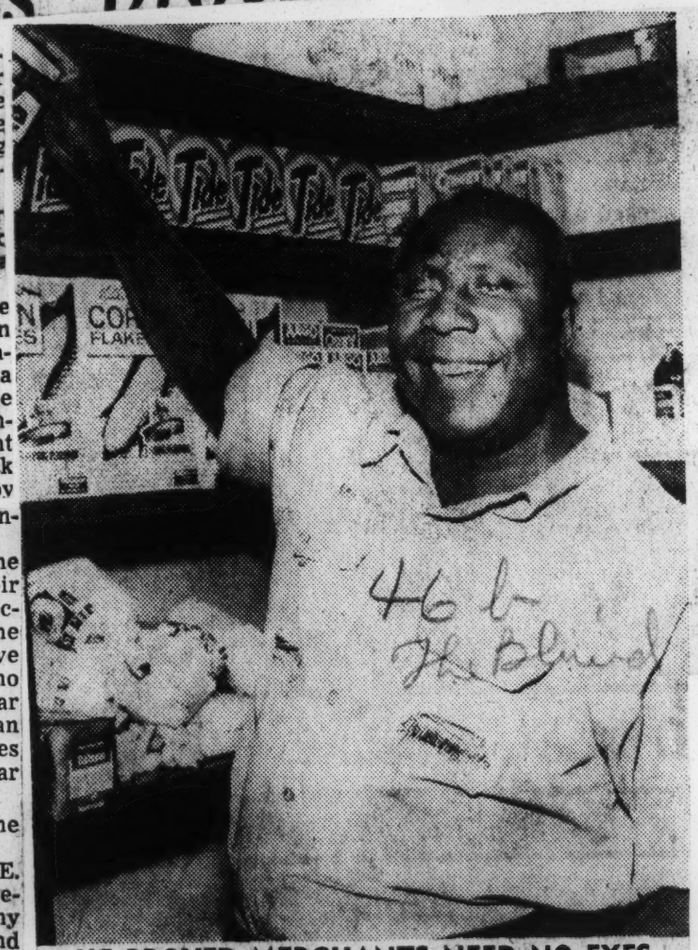
In Loveman Village, J. T. Morton supports his wife and three children with income from his store, which last year netted him $1750. When he moved into the project four years ago he was earning about $540 a year peddling soft drinks and chewing gum from a street cart.

In Smithfield Court, James D. Phillips last year earned $1040 from his stand. The 43-year-old man who has six children under 8 years of age had no income except a check from public welfare when he moved into the project.

The Marks Village store is operated by Albert R. Graves, another former broom maker. His yearly income used to be $660. Last year it was $1817.

In Elyton Village, Hubert H Allen, 40, netted $1116 last year As a broom maker, he usec to get only about $550 a year.

THE HOUSING AUTHORITY already has picked a site for a second stand in Central City and is planning to include one in the new Morton Simpson Village under construction at 46th-st and Ninth av. n.



HE PROVED MERCHANTS NEED NO EYES
. . . He's Walter Johnson of Southtown

CLARENCE MANN NEVER SEES A CUSTOMER
. . . But he knows them as Central City neighbors

$30 Million A Year Business Conducted By Blind In Nation

Daily World Atlanta Ga. Tues. 2-18-58

WASHINGTON, D. C. — Blind men and women throughout the nation are now conducting a vending stand business of about $30 million a year, Miss Mary E. Switzer, Director of the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, reported Monday.

Miss Switzer said that gross sales of vending stands operated by blind persons increased $7 million in three years, reaching a new high of nearly $29 million in the fiscal year ended last June 30.

Reports indicate that the upward trend in volume of business done by vending stands run by the blind — 32 percent in the 3-year period — is continuing, the OVR Director added.

In this 3-year period, the number of blind operators and their assistants increased from 1,931 to 2,294 and the number of stands from 1,[illegible] to 1,830. Total annual net earnings rose from $4,017,000 to $5,624,[illegible], and average individual net earnings from $2,193 to $2,654 per year.

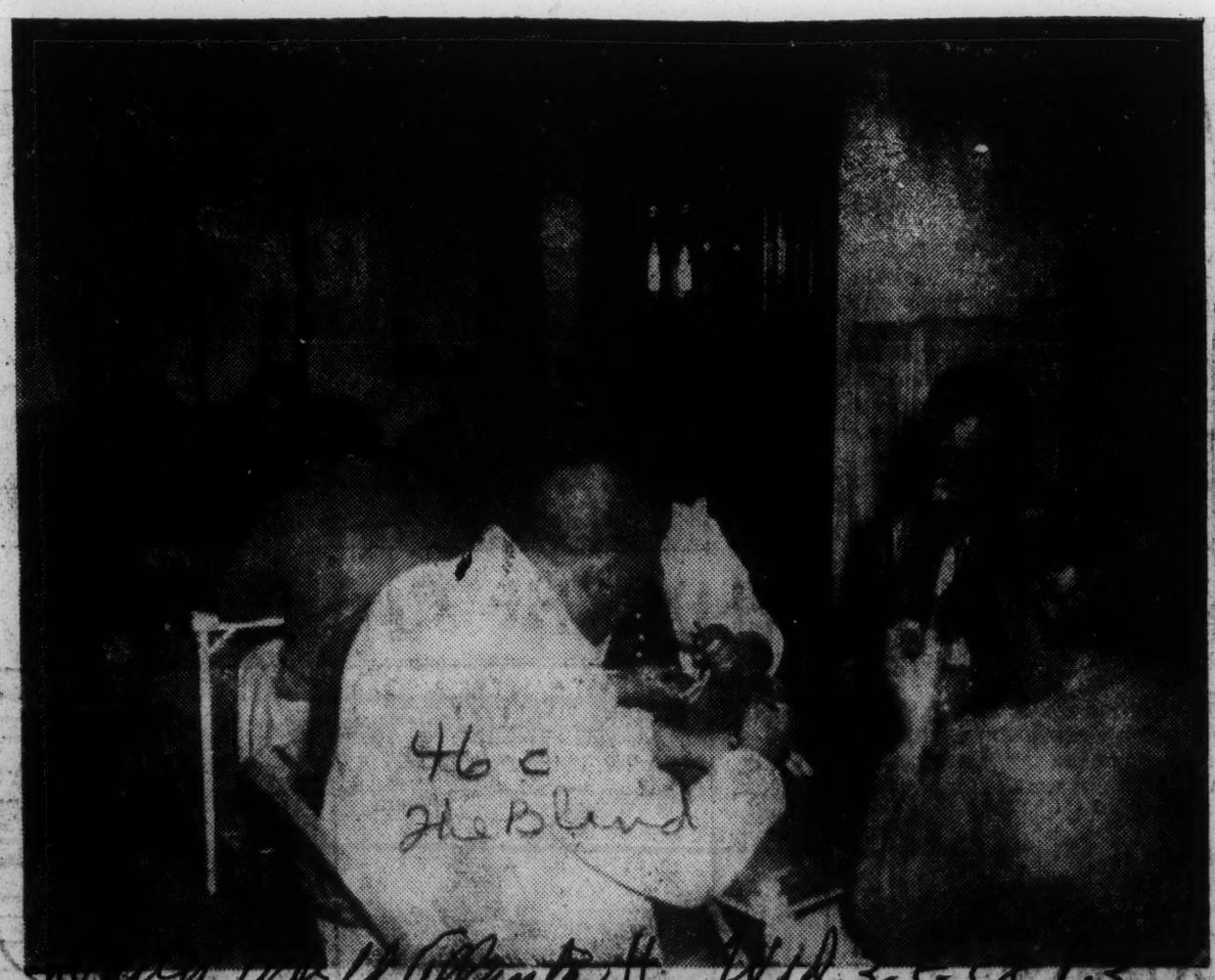
Establishment of blind persons in the vending stand business is one of the services provided by the State rehabilitation agencies under the State-Federal program of vocational rehabilitation, which provides services for people with all types of disability.

The Office of Vocational Rehabilitation, an agency of the U. S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare, provides leadership, technical assistance and consultation, and makes grants-in-aid to the State rehabilitation agencies, other public organizations, and private non-profit groups.

Miss Switzer attributed some of the expansion in the vending stand program for the blind to the Randolph-Sheppard Vending Act Amendments of 1954. One provision of these amendments extended preference for licensed blind individuals in the operation of vending stands on Federal buildings to all Federal property. Licenses are issued by State agencies designated by the Office of Vocational Rehabilitation.

The Randolph-Sheppard amendments require Departments and Agencies in control of Federal property to issue regulations assuring preference to the blind in operating vending stands on such property. An estimated 85 percent of all Federal property is now covered by these regulations.

In addition, Federal assistance is provided in the establishment of vending stands for blind persons on non-Federal property. The current gross business of $30 million includes operations on both types of property.



46 c The Blind

Daily World Atlanta Ga. Wld. 3-5-58 p. 13

A GROUP of sightless persons in the process of demonstrating their skills, using fabricated sheets of paper to tell the difference between salt and sugar.

Atlanta Blind Make Kits Of Salt, Sugar And Pepper

Daily World p. 3

Atlanta Ga.

As a result of a conference held in the early part of December, 1957, by Norwood Griffin, representing Gate City Tobacco Company and Wholesale distributors of Salt, Pepper and Sugar Kits, G. H. Eastin, job placement specialist for the State Vocational Rehabilitation of Georgia, and Dr. J. P. Woods, executive director of the Metropolitan Atlanta Association for the Blind, a project calculated to utilize the skills of a sizeable percentage of the otherwise unemployable clientele of Metropolitan Atlanta Association for the Blind was created. 3-5-58

This wholesale warehouse supplies such retail customers as restaurants, airplanes and hospitals with fabricated sheets of pepper, sugar and salt. These fabricated sheets are broken down into individual units for the convenience of customers where meals are served. The question of whether a sightless person could be trained to discriminate between what was salt, what was sugar, and what was pepper in such a fashion as to make it economically beneficial to the client was a matter for the MAAB to demonstrate.

Whenever there is any question about whether or not a sightless person can perform a task, Dr. P. J. Woods always uses Miss Dena Mae Mike, sightless instructor at MAAB, as a "guinea pig." Within a matter of minutes Miss Mike demonstrated that it could be done to the satisfaction of the director. On the basis of this demonstration the MAAB entered into a contractural agreement with Gate City Tobacco Company to process 30,000 kits a week at the rate of $2.00 per thousand.

To date some forty-six otherwise unemployable persons have participated in the project and more than 160,000 kits have been completed. There are four things to be taken into consideration in evaluating the significance of this innovation:

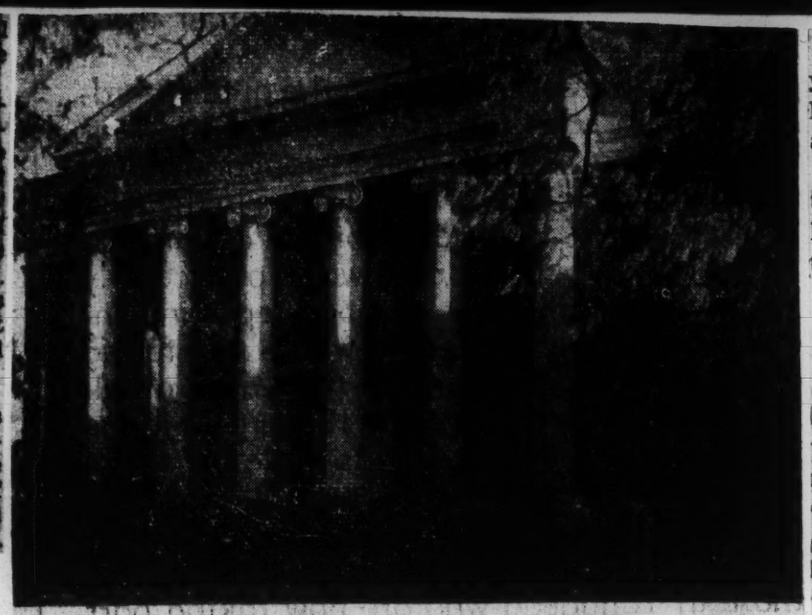
1. It provides job opportunity for the otherwise unemployable sightless persons.
2. It is a morale booster.
3. It is a time consuming enterprise. These people have an unlimited amount of time on their hands.
4. It gives them a sense of con-

tributing something to the social and economic well-being of the community.

A brief summary of the employment opportunities and job placement activities traceable to the MAAB revealed that there are 117 employable blind people gainfully employed throughout the state of Georgia earning from one to more than five thousand dollars a year. The addition of forty-six persons participating in this new project brings the total up to one hundred and sixty-three (163).

The success of this project has resulted from the cooperative participation of the members of the entire staff under leadership of the director of the Metropolitan Atlanta Association for the Blind.

TO BLIND MEET — Mrs. Edith McClinton, case worker for the Arkansas State Department of Education, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, plans to attend the convention of the American Association of Workers for the Blind, which convenes at the Hotel Sheraton, Philadelphia, starting July 27.



School For Deaf And Blind Will Celebrate Centennial, Interesting History Told

With the first century of its existence fast coming to a close, the Alabama Institute for Deaf and Blind will pause soon to review its 100 years of progress and look to a future of even greater accomplishments.

Committees have been working for several months on plans for an appropriate celebration, and a booklet is being published depicting the growth of the Institute.

Although the first class met in October 1858, the actual celebration of the centennial will probably take place later in the school year, Dr. E. A. McBride, president, said.

Strange as it may seem, asthma played a part in the establishment here. Early in the 1850's a West Georgia physician, Dr. Joseph H. Johnson, suffered from the malady, and sought a home in the mountains where the air would be helpful to his physical comfort. He settled on Talladega, where he engaged the second floor of what is now Manning Hall, to practice medicine.

(SEE PICTURE ABOVE)

The building, which was erected in 1850, was owned by the Masonic Lodge, and is now the only original structure still remaining on the campus. It once housed the Masonic Female Institute.

Dr. Johnson brought with him his family, including his little deaf brother, and they lived in that building.

It wasn't long before a group of deaf children from various sections of Alabama were gathered around him, and thus the school began, the erstwhile physician ultimately turning his ful attention to teaching.

In Dr. Johnson's first report o the Institute, he said that afte two abortive efforts had beer made to establish a school for the deaf in Alabama, he entered an agreement with Governor A. B Moore and the superintendent of public education to open a school at Auburn in April, 1858. However, the building which had been obtained was found to be poorly adapted to the purposes contemplated and a "commodious building in the town of Talladega had been secured."

Dr. Johnson was paid $40 a year per pupil and $200 appropriated additional salary.

It was not until the following year that the session of the Legislature passed an act to establish an Institute for the Deaf.

The addition of the School for the Blind took place nine years later, the result of especially interesting circumstances.

AMBITION REALIZED

It is told that Reuben R. Asbury was captured during the Civil War and imprisoned in an underground cave near Lake Erie. He is said to have remained in complete darkness for about three years. During the long days and months he pondered over the misfortune of those who have no sight and determined that if he ever gained release from the prison, he would devote his life to aiding the blind.

After the war and his return he approached Dr. Johnson with the proposal of establishing a department for the sightless in the Institute. The doctor was agreeable ,and the first blind pupils were admitted in 1867, with Mr. Asbury their first teacher.

With the expansion of education among the masses, a department for the negro deaf and blind was added in 1892, on a site a half-mile south of the city, where a building had been erected for the purpose.

Gradually buildings were added to accomodate more students; the curriculum was increased to offer more opportunities for instruction, so that these handicapped children of the state would be fitted to take their places as independent members of society.

SON SUCCEEDS HIM

Johnson Hall, which was erected in 1911, the same year the old three-story school building for the deaf was razed, was named for the founder of the school, who died in 1893. He was succeeded by his son, Dr. Joseph Henry Johnson, Jr., as superintendent. The latter served until his death in 1913.

Manning Hall was named for Frederick Haughton Manning, who was superintendent from 1913 until his retirement in 1929.

Several men have headed the institute since Mr. Manning's regime. Mr. E. A. McBride came out of retirement to take the presidency, and today follows in the footsteps of his predecessors in efforts to increase the schools benefits to the deaf and blind of the state.

These two buildings will be the only old ones left on the white deaf campus after the new construction program is completed.

46b 1958

D.C.

Negro Adoption Work Praised

District Commissioner David B. Karrick commended the Washington Urban League yesterday for its efforts to encourage adoption of Negro children.

Karrick, supervisor of health and welfare activities, said he "noted with interest and approval the efforts . . . to bring together children needing homes and prospective parents who know what having a child in the home can mean and who want to offer love and affection to one of the many homeless ones."

The League's program aims to find some for large number of Negro children who are either illegitimate or come from broken homes.

46b 1958

FLORIDA

Cora Lee's Building To Help the Blind

By MIKE MORGAN
Herald Staff Writer

Wearing her best party dress, and a big white bow around her head, a little nine-year-old Negro girl Friday helped break ground for a building which will bear her name.

She was Cora Lee Hunter, a child born blind who now can see.

With Coral Gables Mayor W. Keith Phillips, who is president of the Lighthouse for the Blind, she assisted in ceremonies for a branch Lighthouse which will be devoted to Negroes.

Cora Lee was given sight in 1954 through an outpouring of funds by Herald readers after a story told how a few friends had been trying desperately to arrange for a cornea transplant.

An operation, performed in New York by a famed surgeon, was eminently successful and gave her a good percentage of vision.

Cora Lee now attends Phyllis Wheatley Elementary School for the visually handicapped.

But Friday she was excused from school.

Cora Lee wasn't quite certain what it was all about except, "They're going to help lots of blind people here."

When she grows up and understands better, she'll know the branch Lighthouse named after her is one of the first of its kind in the Southeast.

When erected, the building at 590 NW 5th Ave. will make it possible to provide increased services for the Negro blind.

The Lighthouse for the Blind, with main offices at 601 SW 8th Ave., is a member of the United Fund.

—Herald Staff Photo by Doug Kennedy

Once-Blind Cora Lee Hunter Sees 'Her' Building
... Gables Mayor Keith Phillips assisted in dedication

TWENTY SIX ADORABLE homeless tykes received homes and the loving care of adopted parents last year it was revealed Thursday during the 74th annual meting of the Illinois Children's Home and Aid Society in the Grand ballroom of the Palmer House. Obviously pleased with the work being done in conjunction with the Negro Adoption Project of the Welfare Council of Metropolitan Chicago, Mrs. James B. Thomas, president of the Children's Auxiliary which works closely with ICHAS is (left) chats with Dr. Ner Littner, guest speaker; Mrs. Lois Wildy, executive director and Bud Gore, president of the sponsoring group. Photo right: Mrs. Lorenza Moore, (right) publicity chairman of the Children's auxiliary register luncheon guests (from left) Mesdames Georgia Saunders, Walter Hearns, Ruby Mitchell, Mozella Coles and Mattie Stallings.

Tornado Death List Is Compiled

Boat Herald
Biloxi, Miss.
Sun. 2-28-58

JACKSON, Feb. 27 (U.P.)—The fatalities in Mississippi tornadoes last night:

Sally Day, 107, Negro, Farmhaven community of Madison County.

Aron Johnson, 87, Negro, Farmhaven community.

J. C. Johnson, Negro, Farmhaven community.

Pinkie Hester, Negro, Farmhaven community.

Erving Greenwood, Negro, Farmhaven community.

Kathy Jones, 3, Fannin Road community of Rankin County.

Mrs. Parrin Ellis, 60, Walnut Grove.

Luther Brewer, 60, Union School community of Perry County.

Mrs. A. B. Rylee, 45, Brewer community of Perry County.

Billy Rylee, 12, Brewer community.

Mrs. William Burgess, Winchester community of Wayne County.

Mrs. Charles Jones, Chicora community of Wayne County.

46b 1958

NEW YORK

Mixed Racial Stock Decried as Barrier To State Adoptions

46b

By WARREN WEAVER Jr.

Special to The New York Times.

SYRACUSE, Dec. 5—A Negro social worker declared today that too many social agencies were automatically classifying babies as unadoptable because they had mixed racial backgrounds.

Frank T. Wood Jr., director of a local community center, told the Joint Legislative Committee on Matrimonial and Family Laws that there were "a large number of children" in foster homes available for adoption but blocked by the policies he cited.

"Should a social agency be able to decide by itself that a child would not get along with a given set of childless parents who might be happy to adopt him?" he asked the committee.

"Agencies should stop officially considering children as 'hard to place' just because they are not white and Caucasian," he asserted.

In response to questions, Mr. Wood said he believed that agencies should have the right to withhold a child from a home of a religion different than that of his mother. But similar action based on racial differences should not be automatic, he contended.

Two-Day Hearing Ends

As the committee closed two days of upstate hearings on revision of the adoption laws, it also heard a professor of medicine from Syracuse University appeal for changes that would give more children a psychologically healthy environment.

Dr. Julius B. Richmond told the lawmakers that children with no natural or adoptive parents on whom to center their affection frequently became victims of mental illness or displayed anti-social behavior in later life.

Assemblywoman Janet Hill Gordon, the committee chairman, announced that the group would hold hearings in Brooklyn on Jan. 5 and 6. These sessions will consider evidence of "alleged intra and interstate commercialized traffic in children in the New York City area."

Mrs. Gordon also announced that Ernest A. Mitler, a New York City lawyer, had joined the committee staff as a consultant. He was associate counsel to the United States Senate Committee on Juvenile Delinquency, which was headed by Senator Estes Kefauver of Tennessee. In that post, he investigated adoption practices nationally.

For the second day, the committee heard general support for its plan to set up a mandatory state-wide system of registering all children not living with their natural parents or close relatives.

The day's witness, most of whom represented social agencies, also called for the elimination of "private" adoptions arranged by doctors or lawyers. They further urged consolidation of all adoption proceedings and other family matters in a single court.

Child Health Conferences Set Weekly

New Schedule Replaces 3-Day Well Baby Clinic Held at 9 Wall Street

A Child Heolth Conference is presently being conducted by Dr. E. C. Moore, sr. in the Slaughter Building, 30[illegible] N. E. 2nd, on Wednesdays of each week. The conferences, opened Wednesday, Feb. 26, and are scheduled from 10 a. m. to 2 p. m. weekly, Dr. M. L. Pete of the Oklahoma City-County Health department, announced this week.

On Friday omrning of each week from 10 a. m. to 2 p. m. a Public Health nurse will be at the center to complete immunizations, and to have nursing conferences with the mothers. This conference schedule replaces the Well Baby Clinics formerly conducted at 9 Wall street each Wednesday, Thursday and Friday.

The purpose of this Child Health conference, conducted by Dr. Moore, is to examine and inspect well babies and children up to kindergarten age. He will not be expected to diagnose or treat sick children.

The conference schedule is maintained by the City-County Health department in the interest of keeping well children well, and helping them to grow into healthy adults.

This is the home for children recently erected and dedicated near Chattanooga, Tenn., the House of God Which Is the Church of the Living God, the Pillar and Ground of the Truth Without Controversy, Inc. Bishop M. F. L. Keith is founder and overseer of the church, which operates in 28 states.

Here is another view of the home for children.

Bishop Keith Is Guiding Light

Pittsburgh, Pa Courier 7-26 7-19-58

Dedicate New Home for Children

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn. — For 18 years the House o God Home for Children has been of service to neglected off spring of church members at Summit in Hamilton County

The home celebrated its last anniversary on June 1 and, in doing so, commemorated the birth of the establish ment and the democratic priciples instilled in its charges

The home was founded on the purpose of supplying its children with "wisdom which calls attention to the youth of America in the nation's schools, and other activities, social nad spiritual."

■

FOUNDER OF the institution is Bishop M. F. L. Keith, leader and chief overseer of the denomination. P. 21

Under her direction, homes were built to house the children and funds were provided to see that they were fed, clothed schooled and given medical care Following the passage of a new code, governing such institutions in Tennessee, the home was moved from Summit into Chattanooga proper and rebuilt according to state specifications. The new home is now completed, and will be occupied as soon as furnishing is accomplished.

The new home can house many children. One wing of the building is 86 by 42 feet, and the other wing stands 32 by 60 feet. The cost of the edifice has been estimated at $65,000, and the property belongs to the church "at large," namely, "The House of God which is the Church of the Living God the Pillar and Ground of Truth without Controversy, In., and its Trustees and Successors."

■

SPEAKING OF the dedication, Bishop Keith asserted, "I know from personal experience that America is the land of opportunity. Since working and planning this building program for the past 25 years, God has wonderfully blessed my work and labor, both spiritually and financially, as well as culturally and physically.'

The headquarters of Bishop Keith's church is valued at $1 million. The church owns property in many states, including Alaska, the 49th state. In addition, the church sponsors the Keith Bible Institute at Summit near Coltewah, Tenn. At the institute, classes are held in grades one through eight while parents attend sessions.

At the institute, tuition is free and many families, with their children reside in their own individual cottages during their stay. Prof. R. D. Lewis is manager of the new children's home.

Alabama's First Blind Negro Teacher Is Practice Teaching At Blind School

Sunday Home News Talladega, Ala.

A blind girl who was the first non-sighted person to ever graduate from Westside High School, and was valedictorian of the class, is practice teaching at the Alabama School for Negro Blind.

Miss Thora Louise Dudley is the first blind Negro teacher in the state.

Sun 3-2-58

As she herself attended the Alabama School for Blind, she believes that "I am especially fortunate to be permitted to do my practice teaching . . . where my foundation for an education was laid."

After graduating from Westside, Miss Dudley was able to go to college through the efforts of the State Rehabilitation Service.

She entered Talladega College the fall of 1954, the Service financing reader service, books, tuition, room and board for the freshman year.

"Through the generosity of friends, Talladega Community and Talladega College, and some help from the State Rehabilitation, I hope to earn a B.A. Degree from Talladega College, June 2, 1958," she said.

"Each year I have made the Dean's list.

"I am a student counselor, and am one of seven Senior girls chosen to live in the Honor House.

"I am a member of the college choir, of the Y. W. C. A., Little Theatre, A.K.A. Sorority and the Future Teachers of America."

Miss Dudley spent seven years with her family reaching the ninth grade at the School for the Blind.

"Upon the reorganization of the School for the Blind in which the Deaf and Blind students were separated, I returned and became a client of the Adjustment Center, the first summer of its operation.

"The Center offered an opportunity for the blind to learn handicraft, Braille, travel, typing, sewing and cooking and how to meet the demands for daily living.

"This experience was the turning point in my life as far as education is concerned.

"As a result of the test given by the psychiatrist, I was advised to continue my schooling and so became one of the first group of blind (Negro) students to participate in an experiment to integrate the blind with the sighted in the public schools in Alabama."

During the time between her ninth grade work at the School for Blind and her return to the Adjustment Center, she "kept reading and studying."

She obtained books in Braille from the Library of Congress — "On The Other Side of Death;" "Life of Lincoln;" "Making Home Happy" — and magazines that "not only helped to keep up my interesting reading and education, but helped to strengthen my belief in my possibilities."

Miss Dudley was born on a large plantation in South Alabama, a member of a family consisting of five children, three orphaned cousins, her parents and two grandparents.

"We were tenant farmers and moved every year or so because we never made enough to pay out."

"My eyes had been bad from birth and in spite of the numerous home remedies, or, because my parents, acting on the advice of neighbors, refused to use a doctor's prescription. I began losing my sight at the age of four.

"The death of my father completely undermined my sense of security.

"Because I was blind he was especially kind and patient with me and I loved him dearly.

"Somehow he had heard that help for the blind could be obtained in Birmingham and so he always encouraged me by promising when he got able to take me where I could get this help.

"There was no one to stay at the house with me so I trudged to school each day with the other small children.

"The teacher was good enough to let me remain although I was not of school age.

"That is how I learned the alphabet and numbers and often

Home News

"When permitted I could recite as well as the sighted children.

MORE . . . P. 3 . . . more . .

last ad — Alabamas first blind . .

"When I was seven years old we moved into a neighborhood where there was a man whose niece was attending the school for the Deaf at Talladega; and hope

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"When this girl returned to the Alabama School for the Deaf and Blind, I accompanied her.

"After a year of learning rhymes and counting on a peg board I began my lessons in Braille.

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"Because I like to read I learned rapidly and before long had exhausted the fairy tales, history books, and Operas Every Child Should Know.

Before I was 12, not only could I read the Bible in Braille, but had begun to teach the smaller children to read, to learn verses, and sometimes I composed little verses for them.

"Music was easy for me and so I learned to both sing and play the piano."